

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 MAY 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq will abide by a cease-fire throughout the month of Ramadan until 1 day after 'Id al-Fitr on condition that Iran publicly and explicitly agrees to do likewise, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn announced in a letter broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio 17 May. In his message, which was in response to an appeal for such a cease-fire from the chairman of the followup committee established by the Islamic Popular Conference held recently in Baghdad, Saddam Husayn stated Iraq's intention to cease fire at midnight on 20 May, and he expressed hope that Iran will not use the cease-fire period to prepare a new attack on Iraqi territory.

As for recent military developments, Iraqi communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses announced that Iraqi planes hit another "large maritime target" near Khark Island 17 May while Iraqi troops killed 50 Iranians in a raid on enemy positions in the Maysan sector the previous night. An Iranian communique cited by IRNA stated that Iranian forces repulsed an Iraqi attack in the southern front early 17 May.

Iranian Internal Situation

"A few hundred supporters of the defunct shah resorted to childish displays in the capital" on 17 May, IRNA reported, adding that this "silly display" was coordinated with "imperialist" news agencies. Former Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar had called for peaceful demonstrations against the war in an appeal broadcast by the clandestine Radio Iran on 15 May.

Saudi Arabia

Sa'ud al-Faysal in Tehran — The Iran-Iraq war was among the topics discussed during Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's 18-19 May talks with Iranian leaders in Tehran, according to IRNA, which noted that he was visiting the Iranian capital for the first time since Iran's Islamic Revolution. In the discussions Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati stressed Iran's determination to continue its "just" struggle against the Iraqi Government, IRNA said, while Sa'ud al-Faysal stated that Saudi Arabia is ready to cooperate with Iran to solve the problems of the region. After subsequent talks with the Iranian prime minister, Sa'ud al-Faysal asserted that the Iranian side had welcomed the "clarity and frankness" with which the Saudi view was presented, and he expressed hope that the talks will result in a "reassessment" paving the way toward the end of the Iran-Iraq war, according to SPA. He was also received by President 'Ali Khamene'i and Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, IRNA noted, and the latter told the Saudi visitor that there is wide scope for bilateral cooperation in many areas including oil issues.

Riyadh Explosion — An 18 May explosion in Riyadh killed one person and wounded three others, an Interior Ministry source announced in a statement carried by SPA. While AFP reported that the Islamic Jihad group claimed responsibility for the attack, IRNA cited the view of a "reliable source" in Beirut that Iraq was responsible because of its displeasure over Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's visit to Tehran.

Al-Qadhdhafi Visit — Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi left Jeddah on 19 May after meeting with King Fahd, Riyadh radio reported. Al-Qadhdhafi had performed the minor pilgrimage rites the previous night, shouting slogans hostile to the United States, Jordan's King Husayn, and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, according to Tripoli radio.

Sudan

Relations With Libya — Libyan leader Col Al-Qadhdhafi held talks with Transitional Military Council (TMC) Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab during an 18 May stop-over at Khartoum Airport, announcing that he had come to Sudan to congratulate the Sudanese on their popular revolution and calling on other Arab armies to follow the Sudanese example, JANA reported. Al-Qadhdhafi made clear his desire for an end to the fighting in southern Sudan and stressed that he has stopped assisting Sudanese People's Liberation Army leader Colonel John Garang, Siwar al-Dhahab disclosed afterward in remarks cited by SUNA. In a related development, SUNA reported a Sudan Liberation Front official's statement that Libya will host talks between a TMC delegation and Col Garang. Meanwhile, eight Libyan Air Force transport planes arrived in Khartoum carrying relief aid, SUNA noted, and Sudan's defense minister received a message from the Libyan Armed Forces commander on ways to develop bilateral military relations.

Investigations — The authorities have formed committees to interrogate former First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib and to investigate members of the dissolved state security apparatus, SUNA reported. Nevertheless, Sudan has not officially asked Egypt to extradite former President Ja'far Numayri and there are no specific charges against him, according to a TMC member cited by MENA on 17 May. On the other hand, the leader of the Sudanese Communist Party called for Numayri's extradition in an interview with the PFLP's *AL-HADAF* cited by AFP.

Libya on Egyptian-Jordanian Maneuvers

A Libyan Foreign Liaison Bureau letter to the Arab League Secretary General denounced "provocative" Egyptian-Jordanian joint military maneuvers in Egypt's western desert near the Libyan border, JANA reported.

Syria

Relations With Libya — Presiding over a joint meeting of the Syrian Cabinet and the Libyan General People's Committee in Damascus 19 May, Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm said the meeting was directed toward giving a strong and tangible impetus toward unity of action, Damascus radio reported.

Lebanon

Although the East-West Beirut contact lines were calm early on 20 May, the western sector was disturbed by clashes in the Palestinian camps at Sabra, Shatila, and neighboring areas, Beirut radio reported. Voice of Lebanon radio said the renewed fighting in the western sector is a Shi'ite-Palestinian confrontation involving the Amal movement against various Palestinian groups which seized the Sports Stadium and the Ghazzah Hospital early 20 May.

Earlier in the weekend, Beirut radio reported intensive artillery exchanges across the Muslim-Christian confrontation lines in Beirut, noting that random shelling caused 31 casualties the night of 17-18 May. On the Christian side, Lebanese Forces Executive Committee Chairman Elie Hubayqah issued an 18 May statement announcing that all his forces in Jazzin and the border strip have been ordered to return to Beirut, and expressing support for the swift deployment of the Lebanese Army in the Jazzin area, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Hubayqah stressed his side's desire for an immediate, final, and overall cease-fire in Beirut, and also disclosed that orders have been issued to close the Lebanese Forces office in Israel. Meanwhile, various Muslim personalities welcomed the possibility of the return of Syrian forces to Beirut, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

Israel

Relations With Egypt — Israel and Egypt agreed on a timetable for the return of 5,000 Palestinian refugees from Rafah to the Gaza Strip, and Egypt also agreed to allow Israel to conduct searches in Egyptian territory for the bodies of October war MIA's, Jerusalem television stated in a report on the Israeli-Egyptian talks that concluded in Cairo 17 May. However, talks on the Tabah issue reached a dead end, according to an Egyptian official cited by the television.

Economy — The Cabinet adopted some 20 resolutions during its 19 May economic debate including heavier financial restrictions on travel abroad, the Cabinet secretary disclosed in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem television. *THE JERUSALEM POST* subsequently spoke of an air of "grim satisfaction" in Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' office because virtually all the measures submitted by Peres and Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i had been approved despite strenuous opposition and criticism that crossed party lines.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Jordan's King Husayn discussed joint action during talks at Al-Nadwah Palace 17 May, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported.

The PLO Executive Committee will meet in Amman 20 May to discuss arrangements for the forthcoming PLO Central Council session, due to be held in Tunis 26 May, according to a PLO spokesman cited by the radio.

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Keshtmand Addresses Security Forces Meeting

*LD190310 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
18 May 85*

[Excerpts] A nationwide session of the party activists of the organs, units, and companies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs for the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the 15th PDPA Central Committee Plenum was held in the hall of the Sarandoy Command of Kabul city today. The session was attended by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; members of the Politburo and Secretariat of the PDPA Central Committee; the vice president of the Revolutionary Council; members of the Revolutionary Council and Council of Ministers; generals, officers, commanders, and political officers of the units and companies of the Sarandoy Command of the capital and provinces.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that at the beginning of the session, Major General Sayyed Muhammad Gulabzoy, minister of internal affairs, spoke on the work and activities of the Sarandoy units and companies in the country during the past year and read out the main report of the session in light of the 15th PDPA Central Committee Plenum. The main report says in part: The new revolutionary Sarandoy, in the present conditions of the revolution, has the duty to defend the security of the country, the gains of the revolution, and the interests of the country's workers under the leadership of the PDPA, and struggles consistently against the counterrevolution and other criminals. The Sarandoy units and companies, together with the Army, the State Information Services, and other armed forces throughout the country have taken part in thousands of combat operations in the interests of the people and to safeguard the gains of the revolution.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers, gave a comprehensive assessment of the work of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, saying: The structure of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, in accordance with the policy of the PDPA and the DRA Government on democratization of the state apparatus, was reorganized following the new evolutionary phase of the April Revolution. Qualitative changes appeared in its system and methods of work and the activities of the Sarandoy were founded on new bases. The chairman of the Council of Ministers also enumerated the shortcomings in the work, and discussed improvement of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Sarandoy forces, saying:

The security organs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs more than ever must be transformed into an organized political and combative force and a reliable shield for defending the interests of the workers, and the combat capabilities of the Sarandoy must be further strengthened. The Sarandoy personnel, in the course of their duties, must demonstrate loyalty and honesty towards the aspirations and ideas of the revolution and should be trained to observe democratic legality and ironlike state and military discipline, and perform their duties with a high patriotic spirit.

The Sarandoy fights against social corruption; its personnel must therefore be a model of high social ethics. In the conditions of the undeclared war of imperialism and reaction against our country,

the great tasks of staunchly defending the security and interests of the people have been assigned to the Sarandoy.

The Sarandoy units are dutybound to defend the gains of the revolution and the security of the people in all districts and residential areas of the country where counterrevolutionary bands are engaged in crime and plunder and to protect and defend public institutions and property and the highways. The Sarandoy forces, under the party's leadership, should perform their duties and give a positive and practical response to the demands of the revolution, and must evolve into one of the reliable and main forces for the defense of the revolution.

Barialay Interviewed by Damascus' AL-BA'TH

PM171341 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 9 May 85 p 3

[Interview with Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo, PDPA Central Committee secretary and official in charge of foreign relations, by George 'Ayn Malak in Damascus; date not given]

[Excerpts] *AL-BA'TH*: First we would like Comrade Barialay to review Afghanistan's contemporary geographical and historical situation since this might help us to better understand Afghanistan's current issues in which our people are certainly interested.

Comrade Barialay: To begin with we must underline the common historical ties that link the people of Afghanistan with the Arab people in regard to common social and cultural characteristics. Here one can also see similarities in the stages of national struggle, both historically and in contemporary times.

Let us review together the contemporary history of Afghanistan, a country that has fought British colonialism and conspiracies for a whole century. During the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century we fought three bitter wars against the British during which our people never stopped fighting against treacherous and vicious Western and British plans.

In 1919 there was a revolution in our country. The success of the great revolution in the Soviet Union was an incentive for our people to triumph also, particularly since at that time Afghanistan was ruled by King Shah Amanullah Khan who was an enlightened and progressive ruler. But British colonialism soon hatched a plot to eliminate him and thus Afghanistan was again suffering under the British and the royal family that colluded with them.

Our country witnessed peasant and workers movements and various activities by the nationalist intelligentsia, but all these lacked the desirable political and organizational backing; they lacked a revolutionary party expressing the people's objectives and historical and contemporary struggle.

The establishment of our party, the PDPA, in January 1965 followed its constituent assembly that laid down its fundamental and organizational principles and gave it its basic character as a progressive party and pioneer of revolutionary action of the Afghan people's struggle.

But reaction and the local bourgeoisie with the help of world imperialism and its agent, the deposed shah of Iran, were unfortunately able to cause our people's genuine struggle to deviate and to strike at the revolution from within through President Muhammad Da'ud. The bourgeoisie and the remnants of feudalism allied with it had then been able to liquidate thousands of progressives and to scatter many other thousands. But our people's struggle never stopped and the campaigns of severe repression did not stop them from carrying out their national duties.

The 1978 revolution placed power in the hands of the Afghan workers and masses. We had to combat the subversive activities for which the alliance of the bourgeoisie and local feudalism, backed by the plans U.S. imperialism and its agents in the area, were preparing.

Our first sociocultural objective was to wipe out illiteracy and poverty in our country and to provide housing for all the workers. In order to attain all these objectives we have prepared and mobilized all our forces so as to put them in the service of these objectives, since it is inconceivable that a revolution could fulfill its tasks in a country hindered by illiteracy.

AL-BATH: All this historical review is wonderful and is necessary to enable us to know the Afghan people's historical struggle. But what about the subsequent tasks the Afghan revolution has tackled in difficult circumstances and during complex social and political situations?

Comrade Barialay: We have always been fully aware of the nature of the difficulties hindering our new path. We have adopted a distinctive course of struggle. As we build the economy and speed up development we prepare for the rearing of the new generation in Afghanistan with progressive revolutionary and military qualities. With a strong coordination and balance we have launched the "battle" of building a modern Afghanistan both in quality and quantity.

We have declared freedom of belief for all the Afghan people and set down principles for solving the nationalities problems and the related cultural problems. In all these solutions we have adopted the scientific socialist methods that enables "the blossoming of all the flowers within the one national field." The positive effects of our revolution began to be felt, and we realized that this was certainly going to disturb the local and regional reaction. But we relied on our people's solidity and the strength of their historical struggle for the desired democratic revolution.

But the United States and Western imperialism in general were hatching serious plans against us. Afghanistan's success and its revolution would certainly disturb them. As a result of certain preparations by the United States and its sinister organs, local and regional reaction as well as Arab reaction began implementing a plan for external counter-interference.

These people wanted to nip the nascent revolution in the bud. Reactionaries of all kinds became united against us. The feudalists and representatives of the reactionary clergy and the big bourgeoisie got together to implement the American and regional reactionary plan to export counterrevolution through Pakistan in particular. Imperialism coupled this with a large-scale

instigatory propaganda campaign against the fledgling Afghan revolution and threw all its weight into achieving one of two things: The downfall of the revolution as has happened in Chile, or internal infiltration through local reactionary groups as has happened in Lebanon.

But the Afghan revolution's decision was again this time sweeping and important: it was to ask for fraternal assistance from the Soviet Union. In fact the militant ties again this time proved their worth. The dreams and illusions of imperialism and regional and local reaction to turn Afghanistan into an Egypt under Al-Sadat or into a Jordanian regime that is always ready to carry out the imperialist wishes have thus been thwarted.

AL-BATH: How do you therefore evaluate the situation in light of the outcome of the battle that Afghanistan fought against the enemies of its revolution and its progressive aspirations?

Comrade Barialay: We in Afghanistan, on the basis of our revolutionary principles and contemporary struggle, look upon the situation as follows:

In our country, Afghanistan, there is a revolution. This means freedom and prosperity for the masses; it also means progress and economic, cultural and spiritual development. It further means achievement of better conditions for family life for all the Afghan workers, and consolidating our people's new civilization gains in a manner compatible with their historical struggle.

On the other side stands the counterrevolution that wants to take Afghanistan back to the Middle Ages, to the era of feudalism, myths, and illusions that are contrary to reason and whose entire subversive activity is based on the worst kind of reactionary thinking and ideas that are concocted for it in the kitchens of U.S. imperialism. This counterrevolution found help only from Al-Sadat's regime, the wretched reactionary oil-producing countries, and the regional dictatorial regimes that are hostile to the peoples and associated with the well-known and universally condemned U.S. aggressive line.

We urge all those concerned in our region to listen to reason and heed their people's interests; they should learn the lessons of history and the present reality. They should realize that in the end they are the losers. Their blatant interference has begun to wane and to fail and the political and military war they waged against our people has failed; their propaganda and instigatory campaign have failed to obliterate the facts, and there are increasing regional and international demands for an end to their interference. Also, our international position, thanks to which we have thwarted the U.S.-reactionary program, is today stronger than ever; it depends on the strength and consolidation of our revolution, while on the opposite side the mainstays of the counterrevolution are crumbling. Furthermore, everyone should realize that we are strong in ourselves and with the support of all the socialist countries, headed by the Soviet Union, and all the world's progressive forces, governments, and peoples. Our struggle, which enjoys the support of the progressive Arab forces as well, particularly revolutionary Syria, will certainly triumph. Our belief in this result is the basis of our people's steadfastness and their great revolution.

Condolences Received on Deaths of Soldiers*LD180800 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 18 May 85*

[Text] Kabul, May 15, BAKHTAR — Condolence messages on the incident of Badabera military camp addressed to the people and Government of the DKA by Jamiat-ul-Ulama [Scholars Association] of Khybar Agency and Jamiat-ul-Ulamar of Bajawar Agency have been received here. The messages express profound respect for the valorous action of a number of Afghan and Soviet soldiers who lost their lives in the incident. Meanwhile, the messages seriously warn the military regime of Pakistan and the Afghan counterrevolution to remove the training camps of the cut-throats and the depots of murderous weapons and ammunition from the soil of the free tribes.

Pushtan Leader Warns Pakistan on Intervention*LD180750 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 18 May 85*

[Text] Kabul, May 16, BAKHTAR — Reports reaching BAKHTAR say that Wajihuddin Masud, a leader of the free Pushtun tribes has warned the military regime of Pakistan to stop its intervention in the free territory of Pushtun tribes. He stated that the soil of free tribes belongs to the Pushtuns and that they can not tolerate any aggressions in this soil. He has also expressed his firm solidarity with jergas (assemblies) of Afridi, Shinwar, Mohmand and Bajawar tribes. He has called upon all free Pushtuns to become united in rebuffing the aggressions of U.S. imperialism and the military regime of Pakistan.

Moscow Establishes 'Air Bridge' With Kabul*GF191342 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 May 85*

[“News Analysis” by Samir Habib Bakhsh]

[Text] At a time when the international community is calling for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, Moscow has established an air bridge with Kabul and transferred thousands of Soviet soldiers to support its forces currently in Afghanistan, the number of which is estimated at 115,000 [figure as heard]. This indicates that Moscow is determined to continue violating Afghan territory and to enhance its occupation forces in Afghanistan since December 1979. Without doubt, the addition of thousands more soldiers and modern weapons to the occupation forces will complicate the Afghan issue, and at the same time will increase regional tension and undermine international peace and security. It is regrettable that the Soviet Union, which is a permanent member of the Security Council, would threaten international peace and security despite the fact that the five members of the Security Council are responsible, according to the Charter of the international organization, for maintaining peace and security in the world, not threatening it. It is also regrettable that the Soviet occupation and agent forces have taken revenge on innocent unarmed civilians every time they suffer great losses. Reports indicate that during the past 2 days, 20,000 Soviet soldiers raided Afghan villages so as to prevent villagers from helping their brothers, the mujahidin. However, all these oppressive practices will make them more determined to free their country.

The mujahidin have managed to confront modern weapons with their traditional weapons. They have downed many helicopters and destroyed hundreds of Soviet tanks. More than 10,000 Soviet soldiers have been killed and 20,000 wounded. Perhaps these great losses are behind the establishment of an air bridge between Moscow and Kabul, so as to strengthen their forces. These losses have coincided with the desertion of a large number of Afghan soldiers who have joined the mujahidin ranks fighting for the independence of their country, self-determination, and the establishment of their own government. It is worth noting the importance of international action for settling the Afghan issue and putting an end to the tragedy of the Afghan Muslim people, and to allow more than 4 million Afghan refugees, who fled their homes due to the terrorist practices of the Soviet communist forces, to return to their homeland.

Mujahidin Actions in 4 Provinces Reported*LD171643 (Clandestine) Voice of Afghanistan in Dari 1100 GMT 17 May 85*

[Text] Qandahar — It has been reported from Qandahar city that the self-sacrificing forces of Islam have attacked the headquarters of the Soviet forces and the Qandahar airport with heavy weapons. Heavy losses were inflicted on enemy installations during these attacks and about 80 Soviet and servant troops were killed and wounded. Another report from Arghandab District, Qandahar Province, says that as a result of clashes between the faithful mujahidin and the Soviet servants, at least 12 sold-out militiamen were killed. Similarly, during recent clashes one officer and four (?soldiers) of Qandahar border brigade, [words indistinct] and one officer and three mercenary militias were wounded in Kajaki.

Badghis — According to a report from Badghis Province, as a result of intense fighting that occurred recently in this province between the fighters of Islam and the Soviet and servant forces, eight tanks and several transport vehicles of the enemy were destroyed and scores of the shameless aggressors [words indistinct] were killed. The report also says that Soviet planes savagely bombed [words indistinct] and as a result of these inhumane actions of the so-called forces of peace and socialism, a number of houses of the oppressed inhabitants were destroyed and scores of defenseless inhabitants including the elderly, women, and children were martyred. We are from God, and to him we return.

Jowzjan — Our correspondent reports from Jowzjan Province that as a result of battles that occurred north of Muhammad (Nesbat) Qala, seven militias of the tribal regiment were killed, nine of the regime's murderers were wounded and five weapons were taken as booty. The report adds that the next day, as a result of heavy clashes between the forces of Islam and the Soviet and servant forces, a number of armored vehicles and [word indistinct] belonging to the 506th Tribal Regiment were destroyed and scores of their (?agents) were killed.

Balkh — According to a report received from Balkh Province, two Soviet invading soldiers were killed during an attack by heroic mujahidin on a group of Soviet invader forces, and three were wounded.

Ershad To Begin 5-Day Visit to China 29 May*BK180713 Dhaka BSS in English 0636 GMT 18 May 85*

[Text] Dhaka May 18 BSS — Bangladesh President Lt-Gen Hussain Mohammad Ershad will pay a five-day visit to China beginning May 29, Foreign Adviser Humayun Rashid Chowdhury said here yesterday.

He told newsmen that the president was also expected to visit Japan and South Korea "very soon".

Further on Subdistrict Elections, Violence**1 Killed 16 May***BK171139 Dhaka BSS in English 1111 GMT 17 May 85*

[Text] Dhaka, May 17, (BSS) — The polling of 251 "upazila" (sub-district) chairmen was held yesterday throughout the country with remarkable enthusiasm of the voters. According to Bangladesh Election Commission, 50 complete results were declared unofficially which showed the candidates had been elected as chairmen of the upazila without party affiliations.

One person was killed and several others were injured in clashes between the rival groups of workers of the candidates to "upazila" chairmen on the day.

The next phase of the "upazila" chairman election will be held on May 20 in the other areas of the country. Bangladesh President Lt General H.M. Ershad had initiated the move to organize the sub-district to present strength of 460 and each will be headed by a chairman to be elected on the basis of adult franchise with wide powers ensuring democracy at the grass root level. He criticised the opposition political parties in the parliamentary system who would practice democracy by creation of a coterie in the political level in the countryside to exploit the masses.

Delhi: 5 Killed in Clash*BK171408 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 17 May 85*

[Text] In Bangladesh, 5 people were killed and more than 300 injured in violence on the first day of elections for upazila parishads [subdistrict councils].

Agency reports quoting official sources in Dhaka say some 200 people were arrested during yesterday's voting which had to be suspended in 50 rural centers where ballot boxes were stolen as supporters of rival candidates traded gunfire.

Three of the deaths occurred during clashes between rival supporters. Two people died when police fired on demonstrators at Chandranaish near the southern port of Chittagong.

Elections Going 'Peacefully'*BK200947 Dhaka BSS in English 0932 GMT 20 May 85*

[Text] Dhaka, May 20 BSS — Elections to the offices of chairman in the remaining 207 sub-districts is being held here today with a call by the chief election commissioner to maintain peace and order.

The elections will also be held in those centres where the polls were postponed on May 16 last due to clashes between the two rival groups of candidates.

In 460 sub-disriets throughout the country, about forty-five million people are required to cast their votes in two phases, May 16 and 20.

It is reliably learnt, the elections are going on peacefully and with remarkable enthusiasm of the electors.

Gandhi Discusses Approaching Visit to USSR

*BK191301 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
19 May 85*

[Text] The prime minister has said that his talks with the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, next week will lead to further strengthening of relations between the two countries. In an interview to the Soviet news agency TASS, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said that Indo-Soviet relations have grown in all directions — political, economic, scientific and cultural — during the last 30 years. The prime minister leaves for Moscow on Tuesday for a weeklong visit to the Soviet Union.

Mr Gandhi said the economic and commercial relations between the two countries have made spectacular growth in recent years. India, he said, attaches great importance to these relations. There is a vast scope for diversification in trade and economic cooperation. The two countries, he said, should work out new areas of cooperation and transfer of technology.

The prime minister appreciated that the Soviet Union promptly welcomed the 6-nation Delhi declaration on nuclear disarmament. He said India has always been a champion of peace and welcomed the initiatives taken by the Soviet Union to restart discussions on disarmament with a view to arriving at meaningful agreements.

Bhandari on Upcoming Visit

*BK181640 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
18 May 85*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, leaves New Delhi for Moscow on Tuesday [21 May] on a week-long visit to the Soviet Union. Briefing newsmen in New Delhi today, the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, said Mr Gandhi will have wide-ranging discussions with the Soviet leaders on bilateral, regional and international issues. The prime minister will have plenary [as heard] talks with the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, on Tuesday evening for about 2 and 1/2 hours. The two leaders will again meet the next day without aides to continue their discussions. Besides bilateral cooperation, Mr Gandhi will apprise Mr Gorbachev about the 6-nation summit in New Delhi on disarmament. Developments in South Asia, the Iran-Iraq war, the Afghanistan issue, general disarmament, development and peace are the other subjects likely to figure at their talks.

Mr Bhandari said a number of documents, basically in the economic field, will be signed during the visit. The two countries will sign a long-term plan of economic cooperation up to 2000 A.D. The several sectors of cooperation to be covered include power generation, coal sector, oil and machine building.

The Soviet Union will be providing fresh credit to India for this, which Mr Bhandari said will be substantial. Mr Bhandari said a target of 4,600 crore rupees has been fixed for Indo-Soviet trade for the current year. This shows a 20 percent increase over the previous year. It is also a 20 percent increase in Indian exports to the Soviet Union. He said that Ninth Indo-Soviet Joint Commission which met in Moscow recently worked out various agreements.

Delhi Cites Gorbachev Interview With PTI

*BK181558 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
18 May 85*

[Text] The Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, has said that Soviet Union desires to work vigorously with other interested states to convene an international conference to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. In an interview with PTI in Moscow he said the Indian Ocean should ultimately become a sphere of vital interest of the littoral states themselves and not of any others.

More on Gorbachev Interview

*BK190900 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
19 May 85*

[Text] The Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, says his talks with prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi in Moscow next week will give a new content to the traditional ties between the two countries and help world peace. In an interview to PTI in Moscow, he said every visit of Soviet and Indian leaders to each other's country contributed to improving bilateral relations. Besides, it also helped in the struggle for peace and international security. He said he has already established a personal relationship with Mr Rajiv Gandhi and his visit will help expand and strengthen the relations.

Mr Gorbachev said Moscow considers that a united, strong, and peace-loving India is essential in the world today. Both the Soviet Union and India and their leaders shoulder great responsibility and have to work together.

Mr Gorbachev also spoke of various major international issues and said Moscow desires to work with other interested states to convene an international conference on making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. The Indian Ocean should ultimately become a sphere of vital interest of the littoral states and not of any others, he said. On nuclear disarmament, the Soviet leader said that a beginning can be made by stopping the development, production, and deployment of atomic weapons.

Lok Sabha Passes Bill on Illegal Arms 17 May

*BK171253 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
17 May 85*

[Text] The Lok Sabha today passed the arms amendment bill. It provides for enhanced imprisonment for carrying and manufacturing illegal arms. The home minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, who piloted the bill, informed the house that another legislation is to be introduced later to curb terrorism. The present bill has limited objective of providing more deterrent punishment against persons passing on arms to terrorists and antisocial elements.

Bill To Curb Terrorism, Separatism Introduced

*BK180929 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
18 May 85*

[Text] Stringent punishments, including death sentence and life imprisonment, have been proposed in the terrorist and disruptive activities prevention bill introduced in the Lok Sabha today. The

bill defines terrorist and disruptive activities and provides for the setting up of designated courts to try the offenders.

According to the provisions of the bill, whoever by using bombs, explosive substances, firearms, or poisonous gases and chemicals, does any act with the intention to overawe the government or to strike terror in the people or any section of the people, and adversely affects the harmony among different sections of the people commits a terrorist act.

Disruptive activity has been defined as the action which questions or disrupts directly or indirectly the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India. Action intended to bring about secession of any part of India is also treated as disruptive activity; such actions including speech, song, verse, book, pamphlet, tape, video cassette, drawing, and painting.

The bill also empowers the central government to make rules necessary for prevention of and dealing with terrorist and disruptive activities. The rules may empower any authority to make an order to prohibit terrorist or disruptive activities to ensure safety of persons and property to prohibit the use of explosives, vehicles, wireless telegraph operators, and to prevent the disclosure of official secrets. They may also empower any authority to enter and search any place reasonably suspected of being used for harboring terrorists and disruptionists.

In the matter of punishment, the bill provides for death penalty for persons committing terrorist acts which result in the death of any person. In other cases of terrorism, imprisonment for terms ranging from 5 years to life has been provided for. These acts are also liable to fines. Imprisonment for not less than 3 years but extending to life has also been provided for persons conspiring, attempting, or abetting to commit terrorist acts.

The bill provides for the state government to constitute one or more designated courts to deal with offenses covered by the bill. The provisions of the bill will remain in force for 2 years from the date of notification published by the central government in the official gazette.

In the statement of objects and reasons, the law minister, Mr A.K. Sen, who introduced the bill, said terrorists have been indulging in wanton killing, arson, looting of properties, and other heinous crimes mostly in Punjab and Chandigarh. They have expanded their activities to other parts of the country, namely Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan since the 10th of this month. This is a new and overt phase of terrorism.

Before the bill was introduced, some opposition members raised objections, saying that they have little time to go through the provisions of the bill and wanted time before it is taken up for consideration. Some of them said they wanted effective steps against terrorism but they expressed apprehensions that the provisions may be misused and suggested that the bill be referred to a select committee.

In his reply, Mr Sen assured the members that utmost care will be taken that none but the terrorists are affected by the measure. He agreed to have the discussion on the bill on Monday.

Minister on 'Foreign Hand'

*BK200800 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT
20 May 85*

[Text] The law minister, Mr A.K. Sen, affirmed in the Lok Sabha today the government's resolve to root out terrorism. Moving the bill which provides for special provisions against terrorist and disruptive activities, he assured the house that the measure will not be used against any political movement for which ordinary laws are sufficient. Mr Sen said the country is passing through a time when terrorism has spread on all sides — from east to west — threatening the very existence of the nation and its democratic set up. The recent bomb blasts in Delhi and other places have clearly shown that these were the acts of an organized group of people who seem to receive resources and inspiration from outside.

The law minister said that the existence of a foreign hand is also clearly revealed by the recent violence. These terrorist acts whose origin, involvement, and objective cannot be ascertained and defined are difficult to be dealt with except by strong measures. The present bill attempts to achieve the purpose. Explaining the salient features of the bill, Mr Sen urged the members to pass it unanimously. Later, the house began discussion on the bill.

Gandhi on Passing of Antiterrorist Bills

*BK171314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
17 May 85*

[Text] The prime minister has said that the government will be very firm with terrorists and terrorism. Mr Rajiv Gandhi was speaking at a meeting of the general body of the Congress-I Party in Parliament in New Delhi today. He told members that with the passing of the antiterrorist bills by Parliament, the hands of the law enforcing authorities will be strengthened to face challenges posed by the forces of terrorism. The prime minister asserted that his forthcoming visits abroad are in the national interest. Mr Gandhi said we could not be bullied by a bunch of extremists. He advised people to remain calm and not to be provoked.

Extensive Raids in Punjab Net Arms, Ammunition

*BK200304 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
20 May 85*

[Text] In Punjab, extensive raids have been carried out to unearth illicit arms, ammunition and explosives. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, the Ludhiana police recovered 38 kg of dynamite from a house in Chandigarh. The information about this was provided by an accused arrested earlier. A number of police and Army uniforms were also recovered during the search of the house. The spokesman said the Amritsar, Patiala, Bhatinda, and Gurdaspur police have also arrested many suspected terrorists and recovered a number of arms, ammunition, and bombs.

In Bhatinda, seven persons were taken into custody on Saturday [18 May] evening. Two country-made pistols and several cartridges were recovered from them.

AFP on Punjab Raids*HK200732 Hong Kong AFP in English 0647 GMT 20 May 85*

[Text] New Delhi, May 20 (AFP) — Police found a huge cache of dynamite in the Punjab capital of Chandigarh today, three days before a crucial meeting of the main Sikh political party opens in Amritsar, domestic news agencies said today.

Police discovered 48 kilograms (105 pounds) of dynamite and a large number of police and Army uniforms in a house in Chandigarh, UNITED NEWS OF INDIA (UNI) and PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) agencies said.

The raid followed interrogation of a Sikh arrested earlier, Balram Singh, the agencies quoted police as saying. Police said Mr Singh was wanted in 18 cases of murders, robberies and bomb explosions, the agencies reported.

Meanwhile, preparations were underway in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar for the first formal meeting Thursday of a newly-constituted committee of leaders of the Akali Dal Party.

The meeting in the Punjab city of the major Sikh party is expected to discuss Sikh demands for more autonomy for the state, where Sikhs are the largest community, analysts said. It would also discuss bomb blasts triggered by suspected Sikh separatists that killed at least 84 people in northern India from May 10-11.

The federal government has introduced tough anti-terrorist bills to Parliament following the bombings.

The meeting is to be presided over by Joginder Singh, new leader of the party and father of the late militant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale.

Joginder Singh seized power in the Akali Dal on May 1 after saying that the chiefs of the two party factions had resigned, authorising him to take any step for preserving the unity of the Sikh faith.

Former party chief Harchand Singh Longowal first denied that he had offered his resignation, but last week said he was resigning from the post. No reason was given.

Analysts see Joginder Singh, a farmer and previously small-time local leader, as a militant new force that Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) government will have to deal with to solve the Sikh issue.

Joginder Singh yesterday toured parts of Punjab canvassing support for his new committee, and said he was in favour of Sikhs carrying arms to Akal Takht inside the Golden Temple in Amritsar, PTI said. Akal Takht means throne of the immortal.

The Golden Temple was badly damaged during an Army assault in June last year on militants who had fortified the temple.

The building was repaired by the government, but the Sikh Temple Committee has decided to demolish it and build it again, without government help.

Local media today quoted Joginder Singh as saying the carrying of arms was a Sikh religious right.

The local administration had banned carrying of arms inside the Golden Temple, in an apparent attempt not to allow the complex to again become a sanctuary for the militants.

Longowal Faction of Akalis Boycotts Sikh Meeting*BK180856 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 May 85*

[Text] Akali leaders belonging to the Longowal group boycotted the district convention of the All India Sikh Students Federation held in Patiala. Legislators belonging to the Longowal group also stayed away from the meeting. The convention was presided over by Mr Joginder Singh.

'Major' Bomb Attempt Foiled by Railroad Workers*BK171605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 May 85*

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, a major attempt of extremists to create terror by planting bombs on the railway tracks was foiled by the vigilance of the railway staff and timely action of the police and the Army. The bombs were planted at four places between Bari Brahmana and Kathua. Three bombs planted in tape recorders and transistor bodies were detected last evening when a number of trains in Jammu were to pass the area toward Pathankot. Army experts destroyed the explosive device. Another explosive device was detected near Bari Brahmana during the day today and experts were called to defuse it.

Kashmir Security Tightened*BK190416 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 May 85*

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir government has tightened security arrangements to prevent extremist activities. A high-level meeting in Jammu last evening decided that all incoming and outgoing trains, trucks, and buses will be thoroughly searched at various points in the state's territories. Armed police escorts will be provided in all trains. Security has also been tightened at all other vital installations. The All India Radio Jammu correspondent reports that the government action follows recovery of three bombs near a railway track recently. The bombs were detected in time and defused.

Police Open Fire on Strikers in Srinagar; 1 Dead*BK180311 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 May 85*

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, the hartal [strike] called by three political parties yesterday passed off peacefully except for a few incidents at Srinagar. The protest was against the writ petition earlier dismissed by the Calcutta High Court, in which a ban against holy Koran was sought. In Srinagar, one person was

killed and two others injured when police opened fire and burst tear-gas shells at Fatehkagal to quell a stone-throwing mob.

Meanwhile, the Panther Party president, Mr Bhim Singh, along with 20 party workers, were arrested yesterday in Jammu when they were taking out a procession defying prohibitory orders. They were demanding fresh assembly elections in the state and judicial inquiry into the recent recruitments to the government jobs.

Transport Minister Warns Delhi Bus Strikers

*BK171620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
17 May 85*

[Text] The bus service in Delhi was paralyzed for the 2d day today because of the strike by the Delhi Transport Corporation drivers and conductors. Large crowds waited at bus stops and attendance in offices was affected. Many walked long distances to get to their places of work. The shipping and transport minister, Mr Z.R. Ansari, has warned the striking employees of the Delhi Transport Corporation that stern action would be taken against those who fail to report for duty by 0500 tomorrow morning. Speaking to newsmen he said a 24-hour notice effective from 0500 today has been given to them.

Describing the bus strike in the capital as illegal, Mr Ansari said it was without any notice and there are no demands. The minister said all sections of the law will be invoked to deal with the erring employees. In reply to a question, the minister said there was no question of withdrawing the dismissal order against the driver and the conductor who allegedly caused an accident to a commuter in north Delhi early this month. The strike figured in the Rajya Sabha today. Making a special mention, the Lok Dal member, Mr S.P. Malaviya, urged the government to intervene and bring about a settlement to the strike. He was supported by Mr S.W. Dhawe, Congress-S.

Further on Situation in Ahmedabad, Baroda

Ahmedabad Curfew Relaxed

*BK171643 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
17 May 85*

[Excerpts] The situation in Ahmedabad city remained under control today, barring a few minor incidents. Three incidents of arson were reported from different areas in the city. Meanwhile, supply of essential commodities, like milk and food grains, has been restored in the areas under curfew. Food grains are being supplied through fair price shops. The authorities have announced varying periods of curfew relaxation for some areas tomorrow. The relaxation will be for 6 hours from 0900 in the morning, in Usmanpura and all the areas under the Narayanpura police station, while it will be for 10 hours from 0800 in the morning on the Kagrachit police station limits.

Meanwhile, in Vadodra, the call for the bundh [strike] given by the junior doctors evoked partial response today. The bundh was to protest against the reservation policy of the state government. Normal life in the city was not affected. The government offices

and public sector undertakings functioned as usual. However, markets, banks, and cinema houses remained closed.

Army Alerted in Baroda

*BK181616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
18 May 85*

[Text] The Army has been alerted in Baroda this afternoon to help the civil authorities following violent incidents in several parts of the city during the last 24 hours. Indefinite curfew has been imposed in the areas under the Wadi police station from this afternoon. Earlier, the police resorted to firing to disperse a violent mob indulging in stone throwing and arson. One person was killed in the police firing; six persons have been injured in the clashes.

In Ahmedabad, the situation remained under control and no untoward incident was reported throughout the day. Curfew was relaxed in all the curfew-bound areas today for a period of 3 to 10 hours during which people turned out in large numbers for purchase of essential commodities. In the curfew-bound areas, all the fair price shops were opened and five mobile shops were also pressed into service for distribution of essential commodities. Meanwhile, a team of opposition members of Parliament from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha is arriving in Ahmedabad for an on-the-spot study of the situation.

Baroda Under Indefinite Curfew

*BK190347 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
19 May 85*

[Text] In Gujarat, the Army has been called out in Baroda city to help civil authorities in controlling the situation following yesterday's disturbances. The Army unit has started patrolling in the disturbed areas. Meanwhile, indefinite curfew has been further extended to some more areas in the city from last night following a number of incidents of stone throwing. According to the city police control, the police were forced to fire two rounds last night in Wadi area to disperse two groups of people indulging in stone throwing. One person was injured in this. Indefinite curfew now prevails in most of the areas under two police stations of Wadi and city police stations.

In Ahmedabad, the situation is under control and no untoward incident has taken place since last evening. Looking to the improved situation, the curfew will be relaxed in all the areas of the city today. It has been relaxed for 11 hours since 0700 [0130 GMT] in the morning in the areas under two police stations of Narayanpura and Kagdari. In all the remaining areas, including the walled city, the curfew will be relaxed in two phases for 5 hours in the morning and in the afternoon.

Opposition Demands Probe

*BK191607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
19 May 85*

[Text] A 6-member team of opposition members of Parliament has demanded a judicial probe into the alleged police excesses

during the recent disturbances in Ahmedabad. The team, representing Janata, Lok Dal, BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party], CPI, and Muslim League, is on a day's visit to the city.

Speaking to newsmen in Ahmedabad this evening, the MP's said they received many complaints from the people of different communities about the alleged police excesses when they went round the disturbed areas in the city this morning. Speaking on behalf of the MP's, Mr Madhu Dandavati expressed the view that the present government is not in a position to restore peace and normalcy in Ahmedabad and to bring to an end the antireservation agitation in the state.

Meanwhile, several instances of stone throwing were reported from Baroda since this morning. The city police control said it was forced to resort to firing at three different places today to disperse violent mobs indulging in stone throwing.

The Army and police continued patrolling in the disturbed areas of the city. Indefinite curfew remained in force in all the areas under Wadi police station in most parts under the city police station.

The situation in Ahmedabad remained under control today barring a few minor incidents. In view of this, the curfew relaxation period has been extended for tomorrow.

In the areas under the Narayanpura and Kagdari police stations, curfew will be relaxed for 12 hours from 0700 in the morning.

In the rest of the city, it will be relaxed in all the curfew-bound areas for 4 to 6 hours in rotation.

Situation 'Under Control'

*BK200324 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
20 May 85*

[Text] In Gujarat, the situation in Ahmedabad and Baroda remained under control last night, barring a few incidents of stone throwing and arson. In Ahmedabad, police fired one round to disperse two groups of people indulging in stone throwing. Ten persons, including 5 from the police and Home Guards, were injured. In Baroda, a few incidents of stone throwing were reported last night. The police burst 16 tear gas shells. Meanwhile, indefinite curfew continues in all the areas under Wadi police station and most of the areas under the city police station in Baroda. In Ahmedabad, curfew has been relaxed for 12 hours from 0700 onwards in the areas under Narayanpura and Kagdari police stations. In all other curfew-bound areas, the relaxation will be for 4 to 6 hours. The Nadiad town in Kaira District has been brought under night curfew from yesterday following some incidents of throwing of acid bulbs.

1 Injured in Bombay Blast; Gunpowder Found

*BK181605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
18 May 85*

[Text] In Bombay, a 15-year-old boy was injured today in an explosion at Sakinaka area. The boy was trying to hammer a small tin with a stone. He had been admitted to hospital. In the meantime, police have recovered two broken transistors, 1 kg of gunpowder, and four cartridges from an open ground in Goregaon, a western suburb. Police are investigating both the cases.

Zia on Martial Law, Democratic Institutions*BK191101 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
19 May 85*

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the main objective of his meetings with senators and MNA's [members of National Assembly] all over the country was to establish close contacts with them to ensure the success of the democratic institutions and stability of the elected government. Talking to newsmen at the Karachi airport before his departure for Islamabad this morning, he said in the light of these meetings he would now be having detailed discussions with the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo. The elected representatives, he said, without any exception were imbued with the spirit to serve the nation and the country and were keen to work for the stability of the system of government.

The president said the government was giving full attention to the question as to how best the elected representatives, both at the federal and provincial levels, could be associated in the development effort and to effectively solve the problems of the people. He said in the past development programs were carried out through local bodies. These bodies, which provided a firm foundation, would also continue to be strengthened.

Replying to a question, the president said the question of the lifting of martial law has been left to the elected government. The government will be guided by the National Assembly and he will act in the matter according to the government's advice.

Answering another question, the president said the National Assembly was fully empowered to make any amendment in the Constitution according to the laid down procedure. Its recommendations for the betterment of the country would be accepted by him.

Asked about the possibility of talks with politicians outside the National Assembly, the president pointed out that the prime minister had already offered to meet anyone desirous of meeting him.

About the distribution of water under the Indus Basin system, the president said the report submitted to him by the committee headed by the chief justice of Pakistan had been to the prime minister. He hoped that the prime minister and the federal Cabinet, in consultation with the provinces, would be able to successfully solve this problem.

About the unfortunate happenings in Karachi, the president said as true Muslims it was incumbent upon us to live as true brothers and avoid friction. He said the press should be positive to help solve the problems. The president has now returned to Rawalpindi.

Zia Meets With Indian Sikh Pilgrims 19 May*BK191554 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
19 May 85*

[Text] A group of 15 Indian Sikh pilgrims called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this afternoon. The pil-

grims have come to Pakistan to perform their religious rites. They expressed gratitude at the proper upkeep of their sacred places in Pakistan. The Indian ambassador to Pakistan, K.D. Sharma, was also present on the occasion. Four female Sikh pilgrims also called on Mrs Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

Junejo on Defense Needs, Afghanistan Problem*BK180429 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
18 May 85*

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has said that an elected government has been established in the country and we should allow a true leadership to emerge to guide people on proper lines. He was addressing a large public meeting, his first after taking over as prime minister, in Sukkur last evening. The prime minister said the country has had to face one period of martial law after another because of a lack of true leadership. He referred to the 1970 elections, when the country was torn asunder because power was not transferred to elected representatives, adding that its results are in front of the people. As Muslims, it is our faith that the country will be committed to democracy.

Turning to national defense, the prime minister particularly referred to criticism by a neighboring country and called national defense our sovereign right. We know our requirements, and as an elected government we will fully safeguard the solidarity and integrity of the country.

Referring to the problem of Afghanistan, Mohammad Khan Junejo said Pakistan was trying its best to ensure the return of 3 million Afghans to their homes in safety and honor.

About minorities, he gave assurances that they will continue to have total security to live their lives in honor and dignity.

Junejo on Decline in Export, Cotton Production*BK181119 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
18 May 85*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said that sale of Pakistani goods in foreign markets had increased steadily over the past years but has fallen off during the current fiscal year for which steps were needed to address the adverse trend. Inaugurating the 10th annual session of the Export Promotion Council in Karachi today, he said the reasons as to why Pakistani exports had registered a decline this year had to be assessed. He said once the causes for the fall in exports have been found, corrective actions should be taken to rectify the situation.

The prime minister noted that a shortfall in cotton production during last season had a negative effect on the national economy and consequently on the export figures. In this connection, he said there were also some obstacles in the way of increasing Pakistan's share in international market, and among these were certain global factors. Mr Junejo expressed the hope that the export target fixed for the current financial year would be attained by the end of next month. He said exports played a key role in the country's economic development and every effort should be made

to increase their quantum. The prime minister, however, expressed the view that while taking necessary measures to help the export trade, care must be taken to ensure that these steps did not cause internal shortages in specific commodities or lead to price hike.

Referring to the overall state of the national economy, Mr Junejo said the realistic picture was that there were certain shortcomings while imports had risen steadily. Furthermore, he said 79 percent of Pakistan's export earnings was spent on purchasing petroleum and its products.

As regards the energy shortage, the prime minister said the government realized the difficulties faced by general public as well as industrialists and agriculturists. He said the government was doing all it could to make up the adverse effects of the energy shortage and was trying to secure new sources of energy.

Earlier, the chairman of the Export Promotion Bureau, Mr Hamid D. Habib, in his welcome address recalled that during the period 1978-84, export had risen by 18.3 percent annually. But, he said, shortfalls in cotton and wheat production in 1983-84 had a bad effect on our exports. In the first 9 months of the current financial year, he said, there was an overall drop of 11 percent in our export earnings.

Foreign Affairs Minister on Bhutan, India Visits

BK180330 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani returned to Karachi last night after attending the ministerial meeting of the South Asian Regional Cooperation in Bhutan and making a brief visit to India. Talking to newsmen at the airport, he said the Pakistani delegation played a very constructive role, especially to make successful convening of a summit meeting of the South Asian leaders in Dhaka and institutionalizing the regional cooperation process. He added that during the meeting, most of the work on a draft charter for a new system of cooperation was completed.

About India-Pakistan relations, the minister of state said that Pakistan wants to live in peace with all its neighbors, especially India. He said during his stay in India he asked editors of the Indian press to play a constructive role to achieve this goal.

Further on Australian Foreign Minister's Visit

Briefs Newsmen on Talks

BK171609 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Australian Foreign Minister William George Hayden has said he held discussions in Islamabad on ways to further improve economic relations with Pakistan. Talking to newsmen in Islamabad this afternoon, he said his country is ready to start joint ventures in Pakistan. He said he exchanged views with Pakistani leaders on a number of issues, including the military importance of the Indian Ocean, the geopolitical situation in the Indian

subcontinent, the interests of major powers in the region, UN efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war, and the nuclear weapons nonproliferation treaty. He said their views on various issues are generally identical.

The Australian foreign minister reiterated his country's stand on the Afghanistan problem and said Australia will continue to oppose Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. He said the Afghan problem was the main topic of discussion during his meetings with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan. He said his country will continue to provide assistance to Afghan refugees on humanitarian grounds. Earlier, the Australian foreign minister visited an Afghan refugee camp at Kachagarhi, near Peshawar, today. He was briefed about the relief operations the Pakistani Government is carrying out for the refugees with the cooperation of the national and international voluntary agencies.

The Australian foreign minister also called on Northwest Frontier Provinces Governor Lieutenant General Fazl Haq in Peshawar today and discussed matters of mutual interest with him.

Hayden Departs

BK181532 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Australian Foreign Minister William George Hayden left Islamabad this morning at the end of his 3-day official visit to Pakistan. Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and others saw him off at the airport.

USSR Envoy Reflects on Tour at Farewell Reception

GF191650 Rawalpindi Haidar in Urdu 14 May 85 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, 13 May — Pakistan and the Soviet Union will sign an economic agreement tomorrow and Mr Smirnov will represent the USSR on the occasion. He was speaking to correspondents at a farewell reception in his honor.

He said: I am taking with me pleasant and unpleasant memories of my 5 years' stay in Pakistan. During this period there have been many ups and downs in Soviet-Pakistani relations, but I have kept up my contacts with the Pakistani Government and I have met all kinds of people. He said: I am glad that Pakistan is now on the path of self-sufficiency due to my stay here [sentence as published]. The steel mill project has been completed, and the thermal power house and the Lahore tractor plant are nearing completion. He added: I can say that Pakistan has not received as much assistance from any other country as it has from the Soviet Union.

Our relations in the cultural field also have improved and a cultural pact has been signed. He said: If Pakistan's attitude toward the Afghanistan question would change, relations could improve. In answer to a question as to whether any other matter was discussed during his meeting with President Ziaul Haq that morning apart from the protest note, Mr Smirnov said that the bilateral economic agreement also was discussed. He said: I had to carry out my tour of duty in an atmosphere where we were

discriminated against, but I am returning in a pleasant mood. I shall, however, never forget the sincerity and affection of the Pakistani people. I visited many places during my stay here and everywhere I was accorded a cordial welcome by the people. He advised the Pakistani correspondents to always write the truth and report correctly.

Mr Smirnov will be returning to his country on 25 May. The farewell reception was attended by Senate Chairman Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Senator Maulana Kausar Niazi, Acting Foreign Secretary Mr Abdul Sattar, National Assembly member Gauhar Ayub, Musawat Party chief Mr Hanif Ramay, and diplomats stationed in Islamabad, members of the defunct Jamiat-Ulema-e-Islam, Islamic leaders such as Qari Abdul Malik and Aftab Mughal, and a cross section of Islamabad's society.

Afghan Court Sentences 7 To Death in Oruzgan

*BK190328 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
19 May 85*

[Text] According to reports, Afghan mujahidin attacked government office buildings and damaged them in Qal'eh-ye Ghazi, headquarters of Zabul Province, at the beginning of this month and killed at least 13 Soviet-Karmal soldiers.

Meanwhile, in the Chowreh subdivision area of Oruzgan Province, which has been liberated by mujahidin, a court has pronounced death sentences on seven agents of the special intelligence department of the Karmal administration for cooperating with Soviet-Karmal forces and betraying Afghan people.

'Fierce Fighting' Reported in Afghan Provinces

*BK190633 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT
19 May 85*

[Text] According to reports received from Afghanistan, mujahidin killed 22 Soviet-Karmal soldiers and took many into custody in an operation in Qandahar Province in the early part of this month. It is understood that a captain in the Karmal forces and some other soldiers defected to the mujahidin during this operation.

Another report says that mujahidin attacked a security post at the subdivisional headquarters of Ma'ruf, killing several Soviet-Karmal soldiers. Other soldiers stationed there could not confront the mujahidin and fled. Other reports have come in about fierce fighting between mujahidin and Soviet-Karmal forces in Herat and Farah Provinces.

NEPAL

Students, Leftists to Launch Antigovernment Strike*HK180812 Hong Kong AFP in English 0754 GMT 18 May 85**[By Kedar Man Singh]*

[Text] Katmandu, May 18 (AFP) — A student union has called an all-out campus strike tomorrow to protest the alleged murder of a student leader and observers said workers' groups were expected to join in and make it an anti-government trial of strength.

The pro-leftist Students' Union ANFS has issued several demands to the government of Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand. The group has called for punishment for the hired murderer who they allege killed Mitramani Acharya, a student leader on Nepal's Rampur Campus, and the release of all students under detention. They also insist that the government meet demands set in a long-running dispute with Nepal's more than 62,000 teachers. Analysts here viewed the issue of the student leader's death as an excuse to stage what is chiefly a politically-motivated action.

The strike is expected to be joined by groups of transport workers, labourers and peasants, in what observers said would turn into a trial of strength for leftist forces in this landlocked kingdom.

The planned action follows a call from the banned Nepali Congress for a nationwide non-violent anti-government campaign from May 23.

The congress plans to picket government offices and stage countrywide rallies to press its political demands including the re-establishment of a parliamentary system after 25 years of the partyless panchayat system. The outlawed party has also demanded the release from jail of all political prisoners.

Facing political trouble both inside and outside the panchayat camp, Mr Chand has reshuffled his 22-month-old government for the third time.

He has dropped two state ministers and given the home portfolio to Jog Mehar Shrestha, credited with the smooth, peaceful conduct of a May 1980 national referendum. But analysts here said the new home minister faced intractable political problems with opinion in all sectors of society now urging the government to dismantle the panchayat system.

In the 1980 referendum the system was given a popular mandate with 54.6 percent voting against a revival of Western-style parliamentary government. Panchayat members have been working to foil an opposition plan for a vote of no-confidence in the forthcoming budget session of the National Panchayat. The government scuttled two earlier such efforts in 1983 and 1984 by aborting the motions before they reached the voting stage.

In a press release the banned congress leaders Ganesh Man Singh, Girija Prasad Koirala and Krishna Prasad Bhattarai highlighted continuing agitation by teachers. They also criticised

the government for what they called 30 years of defective economic planning.

On Tuesday Mr Chand tried to win over the country's discontented teachers by sacking Fateh Singh Tharu, the minister of state for education and culture. More than 62,000 teachers launched a non-cooperative movement in November last year demanding pay rises on a par with civil servants and the right to form their own professional union.

Mr Tharu's replacement, educator Ranadhir Subba is hopeful of settling the teachers' grievances even though little has apparently come of a royal commission's report on higher education, whose findings have been submitted to King Birendra. But political analysts said that the teachers were also out to secure political change to the panchayat system and said they were backed by the Nepali Congress and other left-wing political parties and by students of all political hues.

Student Riots Leave 1 Dead*HK201010 Hong Kong AFP in English 0947 GMT 20 May 85*

[Text] Katmandu, May 20 (AFP) — At least one person was killed and 40 injured as police clashed with striking students and leftist activists in several areas of Nepal, an official source said today.

An opposition source put the death toll at four, and unofficial reports put the number of injured at nearer 80 during a one-day strike yesterday called by the pro-leftist All-Nepal Free Nationalist Students' Union. Demonstrators threw stones at buses, damaged police cars, and clashed with police during the strike, reports said today.

A Home Ministry source said one person died and an unspecified number were wounded when police fired in the air after they were attacked yesterday by 400 students in the Dharan District, some 200 kilometres (175 miles) east of Katmandu.

An opposition source said four people were killed and a more than a dozen injured in the clash. Some 20 policemen were seriously injured in the attack, and cars belonging to the chief district officer and the police superintendent were badly damaged, the official source said.

Clashes were reported in several other places in Nepal yesterday, and the Home Ministry source said at least 250 students and leftist activists had been arrested countrywide.

The strike, backed by factions of the banned Nepal Communist Party, was called in support of demands made by Nepal's 62,000 teachers. The union also demanded punishment for the alleged murderer of a student leader and the release of all detained students.

In an attack by a crowd in the Sunsari District, 260 kilometres (162 miles) southeast of here, a vehicle belonging to a local dairy depot was badly damaged, the Home Ministry source said. In Katmandu, suspected student activists stoned public buses, smashing the windscreens of four vehicles, and riot police and

students clashed in two areas of the capital as students staged lightening demonstrations in the inner city. Transport workers and shopkeepers backed the strike call, disrupting normal life in Katmandu. Private transport services ceased operating in the capital and other districts, and shops here closed down for the day.

Students boycotted classes in all schools and college campuses. Katmandu had returned to normal by this morning, but the students' union has said it planned to disrupt college examinations due to be held today.

SRI LANKA

Premadasa Warns of 'Major Attack' by Tamils

*BK201059 Colombo International Service in English
1030 GMT 20 May 85*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Premadasa yesterday warned the people that the Tamil terrorists were trying to launch a major attack before the end of this year according to information reaching him. Addressing a public meeting, which followed the opening of another model village in the Nivitigala electorate, the prime minister cited as example a letter written by a retired top government official to another government official saying that although his son had joined the terrorists, he condemned the violent acts of the terrorists. The letter has also revealed that an estimated 30,000 individuals were there in the terrorist movement, including a group which is not belonging to the Tamil community. Details of the probable major attack had also been given in the letter.

The prime minister expressed his regret that terrorism is affecting the country to a great extent when the government is doing everything possible to raise the living standards of the people. Therefore, he said, the main objective of the government was to defeat this enemy.

Mr Premadasa forecast victory for the people if they maintain unity and friendship. He also appealed to the people not to allow terrorism to raise its ugly head. The prime minister warned that if terrorism continued to affect our country, the people would be slaves under an administration where there is no democracy. Therefore, Mr Premadasa appealed to the people for unity and friendship among them in order to defeat this enemy.

Premadasa Says India Should Disarm Tamils

*BK180217 Colombo International Service in Hindi
0130 GMT 18 May 85*

[Excerpt] Sri Lankan Prime Minister R. Premadasa said yesterday that the northern terrorists are getting help from some international program and that is why the terrorism in Sri Lanka is assuming a new form. Mr Premadasa was speaking a religious function at the Kulanava Buddhist monastery, which was organized to bless Mr Premadasa. He emphasized that, if the Armed Forces are to be withdrawn from the north, then the terrorists should first renounce violence and lay down their arms. He also

said this task should be performed by the Indian Government, because the terrorists are based in India.

The prime minister expressed surprise at the in mass killing in Anuradhapura and regretted that not a single person came forward at least to stop the vehicle in which the murderers were traveling.

Athulathmudali on Deaths of 3 Tamil Suspects

HK200748 Hong Kong AFP in English 0633 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Colombo, May 20 (AFP) — Three suspected Tamil separatists involved in the killing of nearly 150 civilians have died after being wounded while trying to escape, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said today.

Mr. Athulathmudali also said the authorities were expecting militant Tamil separatists waging a bloody campaign for an independent state in northern and eastern Sri Lanka to launch another attack in the next few days. Suspected Tamil militants, believed to be the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), shot and killed 147 civilians at the sacred Buddhist city of Anuradhapura Tuesday.

They drove into Anuradhapura in a hijacked bus, and mowed down people at the bus station, market place and a sacred Buddhist shrine before killed 15 park employees as they tried to escape through a game park. Mr. Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE today that three of the attackers who escaped through the game park had died. Two are believed to have been wounded when a helicopter fired on them inside the park, and the third attacker is believed to have been wounded when police fired on them as they escaped from Anuradhapura, the minister said.

An estimated 30 to 35 people took part in the attack, but security forces hunting them were being hampered by the thick jungle in the several hundred-acre park, informed sources said. Mr. Athulathmudali said that 65 Tamil "terrorists" had been killed so far this month and 87 captured.

The minister told AFP that he could not disclose whether the security forces were acting on a tip-off in preparing for a new Tamil attack in the next few days, or where the attack was expected. However, travellers reaching here reported that the coastal town of Wennapuwa, about 64 kilometres (40 miles) north of Colombo, had barricades up at the police station and other vital points.

President Junius Jayewardene pledged Saturday that the government would not yield to terrorism, and said Parliament would be told what steps were being taken to train more security forces and to buy arms. Authoritative sources told AFP that Sri Lanka had ordered six Israeli-made gun boats for operating in the northern waters. The militants allegedly use this area to cross from operational bases in southern India, returning after strikes here. One boat used in northern patrols has already proved very successful, the sources said, and four more are due to be delivered.

Minister Denies Navy Involved in Ferry Attack*HK171128 Hong Kong AFP in English 1110 GMT 17 May 85*

[By Neville de Silva]

[Text] Colombo, May 17 (AFP) — Security forces today evacuated more than 100 Tamil civil servants from the sacred Buddhist city of Anuradhapura to protect them from possible reprisal attacks following the massacre of 147 civilians on Tuesday, officials said.

District Minister Chandra Bandara told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that security forces escorted the civil servants out of the town and moved them north to Vavuniya.

Fears of reprisals against Tamil spread after Tuesday's slaughter when Tamil separatists disguised as soldiers drove through Anuradhapura and its outskirts killing 147 civilians, mostly Sinhalese.

The government immediately stepped up security throughout the island in an effort to prevent the sort of backlash in which more than 400 people were killed in 1983 after Tamil militants killed 13 Sinhalese soldiers.

Since the massacre, residents enraged by the shooting and the desecration of one of Buddhism's holiest centres attacked Tamils, and Tamil shops and houses in northern Anuradhapura District. At least 11 Tamils, mainly civil servants, were killed in the reprisals.

Mr Bandara said that 20 bodies from Tuesday's massacre which had not been claimed were buried yesterday at state expense, but there were no reports of further violence today. Officials said that the separatists released two employees of a wildlife sanctuary into which they fled after carrying out the attack.

The militants hijacked a private bus and abducted the two rangers shortly after making good their escape into the nearby Wilpattu wildlife park. Sources said the attackers were spotted on Wednesday moving through the jungle carrying three of their colleagues on stretchers.

In a separate incident two policemen abducted by separatists who attacked the northwestern Mannar police station recently were released yesterday, police sources said.

Meanwhile, investigations into Wednesday's attack on an inter-island ferry boat in which at least 35 passengers died and 30 were wounded began yesterday in the northern capital of Jaffna, police sources said.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali denied allegations that Navy personnel were responsible for the attack off the coast of northern Sri Lanka in which unidentified assailants slashed passengers with swords, axes and knives.

Residents in Jaffna have alleged that the Navy was retaliating for a Tamil separatist attack on the main northern naval base at Karainagar earlier this month, in which three sailors died.

The security minister said that the Karainagar base was about 40 kilometres (25 miles) from Delft Island near where the attack on the ferry boat occurred. Mr Athulathmudali said that the Navy did not have the type of fibre-glass boat used by the six assailants. The ferry boat was attacked in Wednesday morning when it was plying between Delft and adjacent smaller islands.

The security minister also denied reports that two boats took part in the attack on the ferry boat. He said that officials in Jaffna had cited survivors as saying that only one boat was involved.

AFP: Athulathmudali Says Tamil Leader Killed*HK180725 Hong Kong AFP in English 0715 GMT 18 May 85*

[Text] Colombo, May 18 (AFP) — Security forces have shot dead the eastern leader of a militant Tamil separatist group, the national security minister said today. The man, gunned down yesterday, was identified only as "Kakka" (Crow) and was the Eastern Province leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), Lalith Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The minister said that the guerrilla leader was shot by the Police Special Task Force (STF) when it raided a hideout near the east coast town of Batticaloa after a tip-off. Eight Tamils were killed and 19 others wounded by a soldier who went berserk at the Anuradhapura military camp yesterday, authoritative sources said. The soldier, a lance corporal, was shot dead by his commanding officer, the sources added.

Mr Athulathmudali confirmed that the soldier opened fire on a group of Tamils who had gathered at the camp prior to evacuation and that the soldier was killed in turn. Earlier reports said that only six Tamils died and 16 were wounded. But authoritative sources told AFP that five men, one woman and two children were killed and 19 others wounded.

The soldier is believed to have been acting in reprisal for the massacre on Tuesday of nearly 150 civilians by suspected Tamil separatists in the nearby sacred city of Anuradhapura.

Mr Athulathmudali said that Army discipline was maintained after the commanding officer, a major, shot dead the soldier who had grabbed the gun of a colleague and shot the Tamils. The Tamils had come to the camp for fear of attacks by Sinhalese mobs and were about to be evacuated from the area, he said.

At least 19 Tamils, mostly state employees, have died in revenge killings in the Anuradhapura District since the Tuesday's bloodshed, sources said.

The minister said security forces had made no fresh contact with the group, believed to number between 30 and 35, suspected to the Anuradhapura killings. They escaped after the killings into the Wilpattu game park nearby. Security forces have been unable to track the attackers down as the park, which covers more than 500 square miles (1,300 square kilometers) is covered in thick jungle and infested with leopards, elephants and bears. On Tuesday evening an Army helicopter scouring the park came under fire and was slightly damaged.

The killers are believed to be from Mannar and led by a person nicknamed "Victor Fuseless," he said. Meanwhile the state of emergency, declared two years ago was extended for another month today by President Junius Jayewardene. The extension will now be debated in Parliament when it meets next week.

Soldier Kills 6 Tamil Civilians in Anuradhapura

*BK180157 Colombo International Service in Hindi
0130 GMT 18 May 85*

[Text] As a consequence of the barbaric killing of more than 125 [figure as heard] innocent civilians in Sri Lanka's main north central city of Anuradhapura by Tamil terrorists on Tuesday [14 May], tension has been rising in the province. About 25 Tamils came on their own to take shelter in the Anuradhapura Army camp. Due to the tense situation in the province, the security forces were transferring these Tamils from the camp to a safer place. During the transfer operation, an Army corporal went berserk, snatched a rifle from a soldier, and started firing at the Tamils. The commanding officer of the Army unit ordered him to stop shooting. When the corporal refused to obey the order, the commanding officer then shot the corporal dead to prevent further shooting and to bring the situation under control. Six Tamils were killed and 16 others injured in the incident. The injured were treated, after which their transfer from the camp was completed.

Delhi Reports 4 Killed by Jaffna Truck Explosion

*BK190354 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
19 May 85*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, a truck laden with explosives blew up during the search yesterday by security forces in the northern city of Jaffna, killing four people. According to police sources, the truck carrying five people was heading toward Jaffna port, and it was stopped for security checking when it exploded. A bomb explosion was also reported near a tourist beach hotel at Nilaveli, northeast of Colombo.

Forces To Increase in Response to Terrorism

HK190922 Hong Kong AFP in English 0806 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Colombo, May 19 (AFP) — Police commandos shot dead five suspected Tamil separatist guerrillas during a raid on an alleged guerrilla hideout in the Eastern Province, official sources said today. A sixth suspected guerrilla killed himself by swallowing cyanide, the sources added. There were no police casualties.

Police commandos raided the suspected hideout at Kalmunai yesterday following a tip-off that guerrillas were preparing to kill others they believed to be police informers, the sources said.

Meanwhile, in Jaffna in the northwest, the security forces shot dead three persons and wounded nine others when they opened fire near the town's public library yesterday, sources said. Shortly before the shooting a bomb placed in a car near the library exploded. The blast caused no casualties, the sources added.

A Jaffna cinema was set ablaze and completely gutted last night, other sources said, adding that they did not immediately know who was responsible for the arson. Tamil separatist guerrillas are fighting for autonomy for the north and east of Sri Lanka.

More than 230 persons have died in related violence since last Tuesday, when suspected guerrillas attacked the northern city of Anuradhapura and killed 147 civilians, most of them members of Sri Lanka's majority Sinhalese population.

In a speech yesterday President Junius Jayewardene underlined the need for discipline in the security forces and pledged that the government would not yield to "terrorism." Mr. Jayewardene said that the Anuradhapura massacre was allegedly carried out in retaliation for the killing of Tamil civilians by security forces.

Citizens committees in the north and the main Tamil political party, the Tamil Liberation Front (TULF), have accused the security forces of revenge killings of Tamil civilians for attacks by Tamil guerrillas.

Speaking at the opening of a new police station north of Colombo, Mr. Jayewardene said: "If civilians have been killed deliberately it is wrong and unproductive." He said that it was the maintenance of discipline among security forces in peace and in war that led to victories.

"The most disciplined security forces are the most successful, as the history of wars throughout the ages will show," he added.

TULF and citizens' committees have accused soldiers of killing of nearly 80 civilians earlier this month in Velvettithurai, at the northern end of the Jaffna Peninsula, to avenge the death of an Army major in a grenade attack.

Meanwhile, police are investigating another incident in which Navy personnel were alleged to have attacked a ferry boat in the north, killing at least 35 persons and wounding another 30. However, government sources said that the attack — carried out by six men armed mainly with swords, axes and knives — could not have been the work of sailors.

Mr. Jayewardene said that the government would disclose in Parliament steps taken to train more security forces personnel and buy arms. He said the government had not budgeted for extra spending on the security forces: "Unfortunately we are now compelled to spend this money and we have decided to do so. I feel that very soon we will be fully equipped to meet any violent activity by the terrorists."

Meanwhile, presidential special envoy Esmond Wickremasinghe, who has been in New Delhi for talks with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and other Indian leaders, returned to Colombo yesterday.

He is expected to brief Mr. Jayewardene today on his talks in India on Sri Lanka's internal strife and the presence of militant Tamil leaders in southern India.

Delhi: Arms Being Acquired To Combat Militants
BK200344 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
20 May 85

[Text] Sri Lanka is acquiring military equipment from Britain, China, and Pakistan to combat Tamil militants in the country. Giving this information, a senior government official said in Colombo yesterday that the supplies, some of which are already in use, consist of high-speed patrol boats, transport planes, rifles, and ammunition.

UNI, quoting a government source, says the most significant of the new supplies are nine British-built patrol boats to be used in the Palk Straits off the northern coast. The government spokesman said the boats, purchased on a commercial basis, will be fitted with 20 mm guns. Two British-built Avro planes have been purchased for transporting troops between Colombo and northern Jaffna region.

The spokesman also said Sri Lanka is receiving patrol boats with T-56 assault rifles from China. He said that Pakistan is supplying small arms and ammunition. He added that some of the equipment is already in use and more is on the way.

Meanwhile, the government-owned newspaper *DAILY NEWS* in Colombo said that the entire country has been brought under a tight security net following the recent incident in Anuradhapura. The paper also reported that President Jayewardene has invited heads of all religions for a conference on Wednesday [22 May] to discuss the present situation in the country.

Soviet Envoy on USSR's Stand on Ethnic Issue
BK171432 Colombo SUN in English 9 May 85 p 3

[Text] Soviet Ambassador in Sri Lanka B.E. Kirnasovskiy said yesterday that Sri Lanka's ethnic question was purely an internal matter and that the Soviet Union would not interfere in the internal affairs of any country.

Reacting to a question raised at a news conference held yesterday to mark the 40th anniversary of "victory over fascism," Mr Kirnasovskiy said the people of the Soviet Union had forgotten their differences and were living peacefully together irrespective of the different ethnic backgrounds.

Tehran Arabic Reports Riyadh Explosions

*GF191124 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 19 May 85*

[Text] REUTER reported last night that two successive explosions took place in one of the trade centres in the Al-Sulaymaniyah suburb in the Saudi capital, Riyadh.

The report indicated that one of the explosions took place in a lane against a housing complex for U.S. advisors working for the Saudi National Guard. However, no reports on casualties and damage were available. The second explosion, which took place at a construction company, killed one person and wounded three others. Investigations of the explosions are underway.

Iraq Said Behind Explosion

LD191146 Tehran IRNA in English 1129 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Beirut, May 19 IRNA — An explosion in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia Saturday evening killed one and wounded three others. The explosion took place simultaneously with the visit to Tehran of the Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal.

A reliable Source here told IRNA correspondent that the trip of the Saudi foreign minister, with regards to its possible results, has prompted the discontent of the Iraqi Government and security circles. The source further added that there were evidences available that the Iraqis, through explosions in Riyadh, intended to pressure the Saudi Government.

He said Iraqi security forces had carried out similar acts in Kuwait, the UAE, Bahrain, etc. in an effort to blackmail these countries. The Iraqi regime had earlier protested the trip of the foreign minister of "an Arab country" to the Iranian capital.

In the spring of 1982, the plane carrying the late Algerian foreign minister, Ben Yahya, was shot down by the Iraqi forces killing the Algerian official and 12 others accompanying him.

The Iraqi mass media on the other hand have kept total silence on the current visit to Tehran by the Saudi foreign minister.

Khamene'i Delivers Friday Prayers Sermons

*LD171234 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
17 May 85*

[Text] On the last Friday in the glorious month of Sha'ban and on the eve of the holy month of Ramadan, today millions of people in our Islamic homeland, in most cities and regions, observed the political-religious Friday prayers rites. The citizens of Tehran, too, today as on previous Fridays, held an auspicious congregation at Tehran University and the surrounding thoroughfares and observed the unifying Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran's Friday imam.

According to our correspondents' report today's Friday prayers ceremonies at Tehran University were attended by 500 people from Kuchefahan, in Rasht, wearing shrouds. These people

from Kuchefahan, Rasht, who took part in the Tehran's Friday prayers on behalf of the Gilan people, chanting the slogan War, war, till victory! expressed their readiness to take part in the war against the enemy and to resist U.S. plots.

According to the same reports, during this week's Friday prayers in Tehran the slogans "Death to the USA!" and War, war, till victory! reverberated throughout Tehran University with remarkable intensity.

According to the same reports during today's Friday prayers ceremonies the worshippers in their slogans paid tribute to the anniversary of the Tobacco Movement under the leadership of Mirza Shirazi and also denounced the anniversary of the occupation of the land of the Palestinian people by international Zionism.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran's Friday imam, in his Friday prayers sermons today, referring to the anniversary of the Tobacco Movement under the leadership of Mirza Shirazi and with the support of such illustrious clergymen as the late Seyyed 'Ali Akbar Falasiri from Shiraz, Hajj Mirza Javad Mojtehed from Tabriz, the late Agha Najafi-Esfahani from Esfahan, the late Mirza Mohammad Hasan Ashtiani from Tehr and ulema from other places, said: The Tobacco Movement demonstrated to the colonialists the power of Islam, the clergy and the religious faith of the people and since that time the colonialists have attempted, as far as possible, to weaken these three factors and to hatch all their plots against the Islamic nations on that basis.

Tehran's Friday imam referred to the reason for setting up Israel by imperialism, saying: The prime reason for setting up that totalitarian regime was not building houses for a number of Jews, but was rather setting up a province of the Western powers in the heart of the Arab and Muslim countries and thanks to all-round assistance gave Israel such a free hand for carrying out any aggression, greed for glory, insulting the Arabs, initiating war and attack on the Arab countries that already a great many Arab nations have come to believe that Israel should continue to exist.

He added: All the endeavors by 'Abd al-Nasir and the PLO, which also enjoyed Arab support, in confronting Israel got nowhere at all, but only Iran's Islamic Revolution and inspiration from its movements that generated among the Arab nations a feeling of invincibility arising out of Islamic faith — so much so that Muslims in southern Lebanon, without arms and only through reliance on Islamic faith, dealt such a blow at the Israeli aggressors that is unprecedented in the past 37 years of the history of that land — only the Islamic Revolution and inspiration were successful. And when we victoriously conclude Iraq's imposed war we, too, will strike our blows at the Zionists even harder.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i said in conclusion: Rumors about our purchase of weapons from Israel and on the dispatch of a number of Iranian Jews to Israel precisely constitute a new scheme by world arrogance aimed at accusing us of having relations which we deem both religiously unclean and forbidden and also at preventing the exposure of the political collusion between certain Arab and Muslim leaders and

world arrogance; and I tell the world Muslim nations, particularly the Palestinians, to distance themselves from such traitors! It is essential to remind you that every year, on the eve of the ceremonies marking world Jerusalem Day, observed throughout the world at the suggestion of the Islamic Republic, such rumors are disseminated by the imperialist and Zionist mass media.

Khamene'i Sermon on Palestine Anniversary

*GF171324 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 17 May 85*

[Arabic Friday sermon delivered by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran Friday imam and president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at Tehran University on 17 May — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Peace be upon the Muslim brothers, peace be upon the Arab brothers throughout the Arab world, peace be upon the Arab brothers in Palestine. The anniversary of the bitter event of the occupation of Palestine — an event that can never be forgotten — prompts us not to slacken our efforts to uncover and thwart the plots of the world oppressors.

If the leaders of the Muslim world — and particularly the leaders of the Arab world — at the time had been serious and sincere, the importance of this event, which led to a historic tragedy, would have been clear to them, and good individuals would not have been complacent in the face of the betrayal of Palestine. This cancerous growth would not have nurtured and grown in the heart of the Muslim world. At the time the world oppressors bought off the conscience of some people and pockets were filled and a number of individuals were deceived by sweet promises, and amid the silence that resulted from treason or unawareness, the world oppressors were able to eliminate a number of genuine and aware strugglers and established the illegitimate and intruding Zionist entity and gave it life so that it could carry out its expansionist aims.

This is how the world oppressors led by the United States have always dealt with the Palestinian question throughout the past 37 years: buying off some people, deceiving another lot of people, and crushing the others. As no lessons were learned from such a recurring experience, we find history repeating itself today: they are buying off some people, or they have in fact already bought them off — and these people who have been bought off are among those who wanted in the past to be among the strugglers. They are also deceiving other people, and are seeking to strongly suppress others.

The outbreak of the Islamic revolution in Iran has upset the permanent equation of the world oppressors with regard to the Palestinian question and brought about a great change in the equation. The Islamic revolution is hostile and opposed to the Zionist state. The Islamic revolution firmly confronts the world oppressors. Therefore, we find that the agents of the world oppressors are today fighting the Islamic revolution instead of fighting the Zionists who usurped Palestine and Jerusalem. This is because they realize that the Islamic revolution is determined to regain Palestine and Jerusalem.

The support given by the leaders of the agents in the area to the Saddam regime, which has dedicated itself to a military confrontation against the Islamic Revolution, is not a coincidence. If you, brothers and sisters, should look at Lebanon and consider the victory achieved by unarmed Muslims against a Zionist army armed to the teeth — a unique and amazing phenomenon — you will realize why the United States and its surrogates in the Middle East are constantly fighting the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The principal and first obligation falls on the Palestinians themselves and the Palestinian leaders. There is no doubt that those who place their confidence in the United States and King Husayn to determine the fate of the (?people) of Palestine are compromisers, and negligence in a cause like the Palestinian cause is nothing but treason. We are not now addressing the traitors but we are addressing every one of the Palestinian people and every one of the Palestinian leaders — those who now have to determine the fate of Palestine.

The Palestinian cause is a Muslim cause and is not a purely national cause or only an Arab cause. Palestine is a usurped country and therefore its people bear the primary responsibility for regaining it. We in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and on its behalf, consider ourselves to be the permanent allies of the Palestinians and are always supporters of the Palestinian cause. However, the Palestinian must arise and truly wage a struggle, for no one can take his place. Some Palestinians imagine that they [words indistinct] in the name of Palestine and under its slogan although such a slogan has been divested of its content, and is moving toward [word indistinct] with the enemy of Palestine and its usurpers. We cannot accept such logic.

We once again urge everyone to concentrate all their attention and efforts to identify, tackle, and thwart this great plot. We on our part are prepared to be in the forefront of such a struggle, with God's help.

Brothers and sisters, scores of plots are now being concocted by the world oppressors throughout the Muslim world. It is important that we must not belittle such plots. Indeed, we must view them as a great threat. "Satan is your enemy, so be its enemy. Satan leads his followers to hell." [Koranic verses] O Muslim brothers, beware God's retribution. Obey God. I ask almighty God to grant everyone wisdom and good judgment in their work.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. "By the afternoon! Man is in the way of loss, save those who believe and do righteous deeds, counsel each other to the truth, and counsel each other to be steadfast." [Koranic verses]

Lebanon Friday Prayers Hit Israel, U.S.

*LD181312 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
18 May 85*

[Text] Friday prayer ceremonies were held in various parts of Lebanon yesterday. According to a Central News United dispatch from Beirut, during this week's Friday prayers the mosque imams emphasized the need to continue the struggle against the Zionist regime which has begun certain desperate attempts aimed at bringing about a new compromise agreement similar to

that of 17th May between the then Lebanese Government and Israel.

According to this report, the religious scholar Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, one of Lebanon's militant ulema, in his prayers sermon at the Imam Rida mosque in the southern outskirts of Beirut, called on Muslims to wage jihad against the Zionist enemy until he is driven from the entire territory of Lebanon. He also urged that the slogan "Forward to Jerusalem" should be adopted in all phases of the struggle against Israel and that the blessed month of Ramadan should be the month of jihad.

He said: Muslims should strengthen their Islamic spirit in order to transfer Islamic resistance to all meek and oppressed countries so that Israel could thereby be expelled wholly from the region. With regard to the bomb outrage in the Muslim quarter of Bi'r al-'Abd in the southern outskirts of Beirut, in which it was recently reported that U.S. and Lebanese counter-intelligence organizations had a hand, the religious scholar Fadlallah called for the trial of the Lebanese president who had cooperated with the U.S. CIA in the massacre of children and women and said: Our struggle is a long one. Once the nation starts to move the ground will shake under the feet of world arrogance.

According to a Central News Unit dispatch, the official spokesman of the Islamic community in the city of Sidon in southern Lebanon, too, in his prayers sermon yesterday at the Al-Bitah mosque in that city said: Islam is a world force of faith which could neutralize all colonialist plots, and the blessed month of Ramadan should be a month of liberation.

In the meantime Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic monotheistic movement in the city of Tripoli in northern Lebanon in his Friday prayers sermon at the Al-Mansurah mosque in that city declared: It is not permissible to give Israel a chance. We should turn southern Lebanon into an open thoroughfare for launching struggle against Israel. Continuing his prayers sermon, criticizing the Arab compromising regimes, he added: The Islamic resistance in Lebanon has waged battle alone and thereby exposed the compromising Arabs.

Khamene'i Ridicules U.S. 'Empty' Threats

LD191231 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 May 85

[Excerpts] Addressing a number of government departments' officials of Ramhormoz and Ramshir, families of martyrs, members of revolutionary foundations, and some local citizens of the two towns today, President Khamene'i referred to recent threats by the U.S. Administration, saying: the threats by American politicians are empty ones.

The president said: The global arrogance has no choice but to accept the fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran is here to stay and that it will not be shaken by threats. We have already proved that we deserve to exist. The nation must feel this fact more deeply. Today is the day to capitalize on the efforts made over the past several years. Commenting on the future of the war, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: We are hopeful about the future of the war, believing that this war will only

end with the victory of the Islamic forces. This is the right of a nation that has struggled and given martyrs.

Alluding to the solidarity of Iranian minority groups, religious denominations and the various cultures and traditions in Iran, Khamene'i said: Those who seek discord constitute a very weak minority. Despite all its attempts, the arrogance has given up hope of creating discord. We consider any attempt to sow discord as a final attempt by the global arrogance and shall fight it.

Having recalled the history of the imposed war, the devotion displayed by the Muslim Iranians, and the roles played by other countries in the war, the president said: World political quarters have accepted the fact that Iraq made a big blunder in launching this military aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran. As for the supporters of Iraq, they too have realized that they have made a big mistake in supporting Iraq. These supporters regret that, having relied on Saddam, they have been left in the lurch. These supporters have no idea what to do today. On the one hand, the expenses they have incurred are being threatened; they fear that they may not be able to recoup them. On the other hand, they feel that, the longer they continue their practices, the more involved they shall become.

The president then added: We have experienced a great many difficulties. Had it not been for the war, we would have had better opportunities to do constructive work, making use of natural factors. Our enemies deprived us of making use of these assets. The past several years have been years of hardship for our nation. This time, however, is over.

Interior Minister on Elections, Afghans, Drugs

LD181705 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 18, IRNA — Initial steps for holding presidential elections will start late July, after the Majlis passes the election bill, said the Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri Saturday.

He also said "elections will be free based on the constitution and the election laws" and all persons meeting the legal conditions can be candidates.

Nuri said one of the two conditions of the "Freedom Movement" to participate in the elections, can now be met and the movement can open their offices.

"We think the situation is so that the Freedom Movement can call on Tehran's general prosecutor for the re-opening of the office," he said.

The offices of the movement were closed three months ago after a group of people took over the premises in protest to the policies of the party.

Nuri said the public prosecutor closed the offices of the Freedom Movement in an effort to save their property. "They were told their offices would be opened if they did not provoke the people," he said.

Nuri said the other demand of the movement for the publication of a newspaper was an issue also to be taken up by Tehran's revolution's prosecutor.

The minister also spoke on the recent issuing of identification cards for Afghan refugees and said the government regards them as no different from Iranian citizens and will defend their rights.

Nevertheless he said the government will deal swiftly with those Afghans who engage in illegal activity or who spy against the Afghan mujahideen.

On the problem of drug trafficking, Nuri said anti drug agents have achieved distinguished success in an impact on the recent international police seminar.

The security forces are putting such great pressure on the smugglers that they are giving themselves up and asking for pardon, he said.

Nateq-Nuri Holds Press Conference

*LD181253 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
18 May 85*

[Text] Mr. Nateq-Nuri, minister of the interior, in a press and radio-television conference today, replied to the questions put to him by reporters on the issues of Iraq and Afghan immigrants; the presidential elections, and political parties and groups; and other problems relating to the Ministry of the Interior.

During this conference which was attended by internal and foreign reporters, the interior minister, concerning political parties and groups, stated: In accordance with the Constitution, political parties and groups in Iran are free. He also referred to the problem of social corruption and stated: We carried out a revolution against the imperial legacy and this legacy goes back 2,500 years, which the shameful Pahlavi Dynasty completed, and from the constitutional revolution onwards, the colonialists became more serious in their spread of prostitution and corruption since they saw the power of the clergy in encouraging, leading and guiding the people; they deviated from the path of constitutionalism and decided to promote Western culture and European life so as to push aside religious life.

Concerning the dates of the presidential elections, he stated: the preliminary steps for the elections will begin toward the end of the month of tir [22 June - July 22 1985] or beginning of the month of Mordad [23 July - 22 August 1985], and when the presidential election law will be communicated by the Majlis to the Ministry of the Interior, we shall announce the day of the elections, and participation in the presidential elections is free.

By referring to the 1 and 1/2 million Afghan immigrants in our country, and the rest of the immigrants, he said: The administration of the affairs of these immigrants who have fled from the tyranny ruling over their countries and have sought asylum under the Islamic government, is the responsibility of the Ministry of the Interior, and bearing in mind the Afghan's Coordinating Council, we are duty-bound to devise a scheme for their employment and to back them in all their rights.

The minister of the interior, concerning the successful efforts of the Ministry of the Interior in the campaign against smuggling, added: The way the security forces have been dealing with narcotics smugglers has been very satisfactory, so much so that during an Interpol meeting the report of the Islamic Republic of Iran was praised by the participants, and at present the security forces, composed of committee and gendarmerie members, have tightened the noose on the merchants of death in the eastern desert. In another part of his remarks concerning dealing with the Afghans who are residents of Iran, he stated: Those among the Afghans who came and obtained their identity cards, and are now living in our cities, we deal with them in the same way as with any Iranian; whereas if they were to commit any illegal acts or offenses, they will be dealt with in the same way that an Iranian who has committed an offense is treated.

In conclusion, the interior minister, concerning the preventive measure taken against those who do not wear the veil properly; against prostitution and reprehensible deeds, stressing the need for more cultural work in this field, stated: In this connection, the operations of the patrols combating reprehensible deeds has been very good, and it will continue as decisively as ever.

Reportage on Visit by Saudi Foreign Minister

Sa'ud al-Faysal Arrives

*LD181111 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
18 May 85*

[Text] According to our correspondent's report Mr Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Tehran this morning on a 2-day visit and was welcomed at the airport by Mr Velayati, minister of foreign affairs, and a number of officials from that ministry, ambassadors and charges d'affaires of Islamic countries to Tehran.

On his arrival in Tehran the Saudi minister of foreign affairs said: I have come to Iran at the invitation of Mr Velayati, minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, for talks on problems of interest to both countries. Iran and Saudi Arabia are two neighbors with historic relations and ties, and these two neighbors should regularly and properly review problems. Regarding the aim behind this trip he also said: The problems to be discussed during this visit are those which draw the attention of the two countries, particularly bilateral relations and the regional situation. In reply to a question about the struggles of the Muslim revolutionaries in southern Lebanon against Zionism he said: The Muslims' struggles in Lebanon against Israel are a cause for pride to Muslims and Arabs; and this struggle has shown that the people of that small country have embarked on giant steps and do not tolerate any oppression and iniquity no matter from whom.

Velayati Talks With Saudi Counterpart

LD181847 Tehran IRNA in English 1818 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 18, IRNA — The Iranian foreign minister, Dr. Velayati said to the visiting foreign minister of Saudi Arabia, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, here today that the Islamic Republic has

maintained its original stand in relation with the Iraq-Iran war throughout the conflict and that it would continue her 'just' resistance against the Baghdad government which he said is to the benefit and in the interest of countries of the region.

He told the Saudi official that notwithstanding their own rivalry and their own differences the two superpowers are closely aligned in their hostility with Islam and the Muslims, whereas despite their potential for solving world problems the Muslims of the world have not yet accomplished as much as they are reasonably expected to have accomplished. Velayati said the world Muslims would become capable of performing their true role only after they have returned to their genuine Islamic identity.

In response the foreign minister of Saudi Arabia said he believes that the problems of the Middle East should be solved by the people of the region. He noted also that his government is ready to cooperate with the Islamic Republic for solving the problems of the region.

Elsewhere in his talks with the Saudi official, the Iranian foreign minister presented a somewhat detailed account of the war crimes of the Baghdad government in Iran and her violation of international conventions in respect of war operations.

Musavi Talks With Saudi Minister

LD191725 Tehran IRNA in English 1716 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 18, IRNA — Iranian Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi and the Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal Sunday met in Tehran and discussed issues of mutual interest including the imposed Iraqi war and bilateral ties.

Al-Faysal termed his discussion with officials of the Islamic Republic as "useful" and expressed satisfaction at having travelled to Tehran.

He also pointed to the effects of the imposed Iraqi war on the region and expressed hope that it would end.

The Saudi minister also called for expansion of ties between Iran and Saudi Arabia and said closer relations between the two countries were an important and necessary step.

Musavi pointed to the common beliefs and culture that the people of the two countries shared and said "despite these similarities, when a revolution takes place in a country, it adopts a new language and more effort must be exerted to understand it".

Musavi pointed to the propaganda against the Islamic Republic and explained the foreign policy of the government in regards to its neighbors and other Islamic countries. He expressed regret that the "clear principles of Iran's foreign policy were misinterpreted".

On the imposed Iraqi war Musavi said the Iraqi regime attacked Iran at a time when it felt it (Iran) was weak and would disintegrate at one military offensive.

He said the Islamic Republic has no claim over Iraqi soil but demands and insists on the implementation of Islamic justice to guarantee peace in the region.

"The implementation of law is not possible without the punishment of the aggressor" he said.

The prime minister also emphasised the need to expand ties between the two Muslim neighbors.

Sa'ud al-Faysal Comments on Meeting

GF191748 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1635 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Tehran, 19 May (SPA) — His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal met with Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi today.

In a statement to SPA following the meeting, the foreign minister said that he presented to the Iranian prime minister and the Iranian side the political bases upon which the Islamic policy of the kingdom has been established since the era of deceased King 'Abd al-'Aziz. He said that this policy has always sought to achieve the unity and solidarity of Muslims based on welfare and understanding, and that the goals of any effort exerted by a Saudi official stem from the aforementioned bases. He said that the kingdom sincerely desires to contribute to any serious and sincere work to secure the safety of the Gulf region and the welfare of its peoples and to bolster the bonds among the peoples of this region.

With regard to the Iraq-Iran war, his royal highness said that he affirmed to the prime minister the kingdom's continued and sincere call that this war will only bring destruction to the fraternal peoples in Iran and Iraq and that it will give an opportunity to those who lurk in ambush for the Islamic world and the countries of this region so that they can further harm the interests of the Islamic nation and sow more seeds of division among the fraternal countries of the region.

His royal highness affirmed that the kingdom and its sister countries in the GCC will exert efforts to sincerely contribute in any effort toward finding a solution to this destructive war in a way that will safeguard the interests of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples and put an end to the tragedies that have worn down the two fraternal Muslim peoples and threatened the region.

His royal highness the foreign minister also pointed out that bilateral relations were discussed on the basis that the strengthening of bonds between any two countries enables them to have a better and more comprehensive view of the problems which they are dealing with, whether on the level of bilateral relations or on the level of their relationship to the same region. His royal highness said: "The Iranian side welcomed the clarity and frankness with which the Saudi view was presented regarding the issues which we discussed. He said that the Iranian prime minister affirmed his conviction for the importance of such meetings and their role in order to eliminate ambiguities that may surround bilateral relations and in order to help achieve a better understanding of the problems that concern the kingdom

and Iran. The prime minister also explained Iran's stance toward the Iraq-Iran war. The foreign minister concluded his statement by expressing his hope that the talks would result in a reassessment that would be a clear introduction to the end of this destructive war.

The meeting was attended by the delegation accompanying the Saudi foreign minister, Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, and a number of officials at the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

President Briefs Saudi Minister

LD191839 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 19, IRNA — In a meeting with the visiting foreign minister of Saudi Arabia, Sa'ud al-Faysal here today, Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i said that during the years following the triumph of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, the Iranians have all too obviously disproved Washington's forecasts of the future of the Islamic Revolution and of Iran.

He said the "designers of oppressive and supercilious strategies and especially the Americans" had gone a long way trying to convince the countries of the region that Iran was a threat to them or that the country had become destabilized and that it could be easily dealt a deadly "blow, both of which outlooks were erroneous."

Khamene'i said to the Saudi foreign minister that the Islamic Revolution is against the domination in the region of the big powers and that it is bent on a perpetual war with the Zionist regime.

He said the Islamic Republic offers a friendly hand to all her neighbours as well as to all Muslim states throughout the world and proposes to coexist with them in a spirit of unity and friendship, and further believes that the world Muslim nations can cope with their problems relying on their combined power.

The Iranian president said that the issue of Palestine and the ever expanding presence in the Persian Gulf of the U.S. and British foreigners are principal issues to the countries of the region to which the Muslim world should address itself.

He said from its outset the Islamic Revolution in Iran conceived with the principles and ideals of Islam challenged the supremacy of the West and East and that "whosoever has faith in Islam should feel proud of holding such dignifying banner. This is precisely what we expect from the countries of the region."

At the start of their meeting the Saudi foreign minister expressed a willingness for a further development of relations between the two countries and noted that the Saudis prize the Islamic Revolution in Iran which sparked off other Islamic movements elsewhere in the world."

The Saudi official arrived here Saturday on his first visit to Tehran since the culmination of the Islamic Revolution in Iran.

Ambassadors Meet Sa'ud al-Faysal

GF191942 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1655 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Tehran, 19 May (SPA) — His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal met with ambassadors of the Islamic countries to Iran at the Saudi Embassy in Tehran today.

During the meeting, his royal highness talked with the ambassadors about a number of current Arab and Islamic issues and the kingdom's stance toward those issues. He also talked about the Iraq-Iran war and briefed them on the goals and results of his talks with the Iranian leaders.

Majlis Speaker Meets Saudi Minister

LD191959 Tehran IRNA in English 1947 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Tehran May 19 IRNA — Iran's Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani stressed here today that the Islamic Republic and the Arab Muslims were a united ummah, adding that the Islamic countries should get united and remove the cause of tension in the region (in reference to the Iraqi regime).

Speaking in a meeting with the visiting Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal, the Majlis speaker said also that "we expected that with the victory of Islam in Iran we would be welcomed by the Muslim countries. We are really ready to use the potentials that the ex-shah had provided in Iran, against Israel which is the common enemy of all Muslims.

"We believe that as much as the superpowers are in agreement for preserving Israel, they are at the same time happy to see no friendship among us and the Arab brothers as well as other Muslims.

"We believe that this war was launched by the Iraqi Government for this very purpose and to create division between you and us... We are definitely more hateful of this war than you and we are interested in ending it so that we could later live along with the Islamic countries in the region comfortably and with friendship... But our enemies who ignited this war want our differences to remain forever.

"You see that the propaganda machines of the infidels are always making the Islamic countries of the region afraid of Iran. Our country and your country can have better relations compared with others, for many reasons. You and us can fight against Israel in a single front and cooperate throughout the world for the propagation of the Islamic culture.

"Our relations in the various dimensions including oil issues, could provide a wide field for cooperation. Therefore you must be careful that the propaganda of the enemies of Islam who are trying to make you fear us is false. Their objective is not to let the Islamic Republic which is an outstanding power, progress in the interest of the Islamic countries.

"About the war, as we have said, before the punishment of the (Iraqi) Ba'th Party which is responsible for this war and before the fulfillment of the legitimate rights of the Iranian people no other alternative would be acceptable by us. We hope that the

Islamic Republic along other Islamic states in the region would succeed in eliminating the factor of tension in the region and thus create a comfortable life for the Muslims of the region."

Sa'ud al-Faysal expressed pleasure over his trip to Iran and emphasised on expansion of mutual ties. The meeting was also attended by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

GDR Chemical Industries Minister Visits Tehran

GF181034 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] According to a report received from our correspondent, the GDR minister of chemical industries arrived in Tehran this morning leading a delegation. He was received by Mr Gholam Reza Shafe'i, the minister of industries. In a talk with our correspondent the GDR minister said: We have from the very beginning announced our readiness to cooperate with the Islamic Republic of Iran in various industrial fields. The items we import from Iran are oil, dry fruit, coal, and some other items, and in return we export to Iran machine tools, textile machinery, and oil products.

Mr Shafe'i in his interview with our correspondent said: Every year a commission of ministers of chemical industries meets and they hold talks on the question of industrial exchanges. He said: the volume of trade between the two countries after the victory of the Islamic Revolution has considerably increased. In the year 1984 goods worth \$400 million were exchanged between the two countries. The minister of industries added that the GDR in addition to oil, imports from us vegetable seeds, gypsum, and other minerals.

Ministers Discuss Cooperation

LD182014 Tehran IRNA in English 1755 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 18, IRNA — The minister of chemical industries of the German Democratic Republic, Guenther Wyschofsky, told the Iranian Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi here today that his country is ready to cooperate with Iran for building machines, and providing their after-sale services and maintenance as well as export appropriate technology to Iran.

In response the Iranian minister expressed hope that the GDR and the Islamic Republic of Iran would cooperate for providing manufacturing parts of hydraulic presses as well as the equipment for cement plants, and manufacturing of textile machines and steam turbines up to a capacity of 50 megawatts. Earlier today the GDR official met and held talks with the Iranian minister of industries, Gholamreza Shafe'i. The German official arrived here at the head of a 30-man German delegation.

Wyschofsky Meets Energy Minister

LD191634 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 19, IRNA — German Democratic Republic's minister of chemical industry, Guenther Wyschofsky, head-

ing a 30-man delegation who arrived in Tehran Saturday met Sunday with the Iranian minister of energy, Dr. Hasan Ghafuri-Fard and some experts of this ministry.

At the meeting the expansion of ties between the two countries and bilateral cooperation in the fields of water supply and electricity were discussed.

Meanwhile, Guenther Wyschofsky, in another meeting here, visited the managing director of Iran's national steel company Sunday. The two talked about bilateral cooperation in the areas of mines and steel.

Joint Staff Command Issues Communiques on War

17 May Communique

LD171939 Tehran IRNA in English 1702 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 17, IRNA — Thirty Iraqi Troops were killed or wounded and 8 of their weaponry positions destroyed when Iran's Muslim combatants opened fire on enemy positions in the central front Thursday, the Joint Staff Communique said today.

It said an undetermined number of enemy soldiers were also killed in a 3-hour battle in the Nowsud (?area) after night Friday.

Also in the central fronts, the heaviest clashes were in Qasr-e Shirin and Sar Pol-e Zahab, it said.

In the northern fronts, Iran's combatants engaged with the Iraqis in sporadic artillery duels that interrupted their supply efforts in Chuman Mustafa and Varess, and other points in the Piranshahr operational area. A number of Iraqi forces were killed or wounded and 2 of their mortar launchers and 2 bunkers were demolished.

The heaviest confrontations in the northern fronts were in Sardasht.

In the southern fronts, the Islamic forces deployed defensive tactics while opening fire on Iraqi supply routes and artillery positions, silencing their fire. They also controlled the movement of Iraqi patrol and engineering units.

Communique No 2,107

LD181750 Tehran IRNA in English 1740 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 18, IRNA — Enemy troops backed by artillery, tank and mortar support attempted to penetrate Iranian positions in Bayat region in south at 4:00 hours Friday (00:30) but were forced to retreat while sustaining a number of killed, wounded and captured. Some munitions and guns were also seized by the Islamic defenders in these operations.

Announcing this the Joint Staff Command Communique No 2107 further said that the Islamic combatants targetted Iraqi infantry positions and observation posts, as a result of which parts of their defensive positions and bunkers were demolished.

In the western fronts, the engineering and logistics activities of the enemy were checked in Helaleh, Mehran, Qasr-e Shirin, Sumar and Kani Sheikh. The enemy sustained about 40 killed and wounded in these fronts, concluded the Joint Staff Command communique.

Communique No 2,108

LD191648 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 18, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants Saturday killed and wounded 35 Iraqi troops and destroyed nine of their bunkers in Helaleh, Sumar and Paveh areas of the western front, said the Joint Staff Communique Number 2108.

It said less intense duels took place across other areas of the front with Iranians bombarding Iraqi artillery and infantry positions.

In the southern sector of the war front the combatants killed and wounded another group of Iraqi troops when they bombarded Iraqi positions bringing them under control.

Iran's Muslim defenders also maintained their positions, while deploying defensive tactics in the area.

The gendarmerie combatants stationed in the vicinity of Arvand River destroyed nine Iraqi bunkers and one of their vehicles when they attacked enemy positions interrupting their engineering efforts.

Iraqi supply vehicles and positions across the northwestern front, from Piranshahr to Marivan, also came under Iranian bombardment.

On Friday night two enemy patrols tried to infiltrate Iranian positions in Helaleh and Eyn Khosh but were forced to retreat with heavy casualties.

Spokesman Denies Shelling Iraqi Towns 18 May

LD181834 Tehran IRNA in English 1828 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 18 IRNA — Iran today denied that its artillery fire had shelled Iraqi towns of Mandali, Khormal, and Qazaniya in the north of the country "over the past 24 hours" as claimed in a military communique issued by the Baghdad government today. A spokesman of the War Information Headquarters in a talk with IRNA refuted the allegation and described it as baseless.

Tehran Arabic Cites Jihad Warning Against U.S.

GF181115 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] The Central News Bureau of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran reports that a person has contacted foreign correspondents in Western Beirut by telephone and claimed to represent the Islamic Al-Jihad organization. During this telephone conversation, he warned that the biggest yet military operation will be carried out against the United States.

According to a UPI report, the phone caller, who was speaking Arabic during the telephone conversation, said he represented the Islamic Jihad organization. He said Kuwait's rejection of our demand exposed Kuwaiti diplomats all over the world to the fire of hell.

This threat came after the Islamic Jihad organization distributed photos of the four kidnapped Americans and two French. The organization said: If Kuwait does not release 17 prisoners whose names were given, these hostages will face a disastrous fate.

KUNA reported that a senior U.S. State Department official said without giving any justification yesterday that if the kidnapped Americans are executed, Iran will be held responsible for the consequences of this act which will include military operations.

The official, who refrained from giving his name, quoted U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' warning against Iran that it will face a retaliatory act by the United States if the Islamic Jihad organization carries out its threat to execute the kidnapped. He said this warning still stands and Iran has to take this seriously.

Arabs in Ahvaz March in Support of War, Khomeyni

GF180636 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] A large number of Muslim Arab tribes in Ahvaz and neighboring villages, who are always responsive to events, yesterday organized a huge march in which they denounced the international arrogance's conspiracies against the Islamic revolution. They also affirmed the need to continue the war and achieve final victory.

The march participants, who carried pictures for Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution, and officials in the Islamic Republic, chanted slogans [words indistinct] the conscious tribes' sons and [words indistinct]. They chanted "War, war until victory," thus affirming once again [words indistinct].

The march participants also issued a statement denouncing the superpowers' plots against the Islamic Revolution [words indistinct] to confront these plots and continue struggle to liberate the occupied land of Palestine from the Zionists' filth. They also expressed their support to all the world's liberation movements and to the Muslim and oppressed peoples in their struggle against tyrant forces.

'Few Hundred' Shah Supporters Demonstrate

LD171935 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 17 May 85

["Silly Moves in Tehran" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, May 17, IRNA — While more than a million people took part in Friday mass prayers in Tehran, a few hundred supporters of the defunct shah resorted to childish displays in the capital today to show their liking of corrupt and unrestrained monarchical ways.

The silly display was completely coordinated with the imperialist news agencies. One of them, the bankrupt U.S. news agency, UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, reported demonstrations by "hundreds of thousands" of people in Tehran and other cities.

Radio Iran Carries Bakhtiar Messages to Iranians

*GF180814 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT
15 May 85*

["Text" of message issued by former Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar in Paris — date not given, read by announcer]

[Text] My sisters and brothers. Procrastination, watching and waiting of foreign governments whatever it may be for, let it be. You the people of Iran who daily express your distrust and hatred toward the anti-Iranian Khomeyni government, you the men and women of our ancient country who demonstrate daily to bring about the downfall of the murderous regime, you who express your resentment every day against the brutalities, murders and deprivations, you should not sit idle even for a moment. You should not let the wealth of the country be destroyed.

The year 1985 must be the year to topple the Khomeyni regime. I am most grateful to you for your listening to me and as far as possible carrying out the first stage of the negative attitude against the regime as I asked, and for expressing your noncooperation with the akhonds, despite all the difficulties. Now today I want to let you know about the second stage of civil disobedience. I want to avail myself of the teachings of the great philosopher, my dear friend Mossadeq, who will always remain a symbol of sacrifice and national dignity.

I want to inform all my compatriots that to continue national resistance by those who are already prepared for this job and those who are getting ready for such a job, they will from the beginning of the month of Khordad [22 May to 21 June] receive instructions in order to topple the regime from the "liberation headquarters." In addition to the civil disobedience instructions over the last 3 months, these instructions will include a series of steps to be taken to meet the objective. These steps as a matter of principle will be defensive, but in any case these instructions will reach you through military and civilian sources. On Friday, 17 May, beginning at 1030, I want you to leave your homes and demonstrate in a peaceful way against the continuation of the foolish war between Iran and Iraq and condemn the akhond regime.

For the sake of conquest and to expand the country they send our sons and brothers to the battlefronts. You should appear in every street and alley, every road and avenue, and protest against the war because war is banned in every religion and [words indistinct] in accordance with all the tenets of Islam and must end. This war will last as long as Khomeyni lives, and his destruction will bring peace and friendship among the countries of the Middle East. You should say that you do not want war and leave the question of Jerusalem to be dealt with by the akhonds.

As regards the marshes of the Majnun Islands which is the result of the foolishness of the akhonds [words indistinct] those who

attacked the island did not have proper weapons or air cover for such a huge army. Our young officers [words indistinct] and the defeat in such circumstances was inevitable. We desire a return to recognized international borders according to the 1975 treaty which includes ways and means of settling differences. [Words indistinct] he who throws the people at the throat of a neighboring nation has no human values and has no conscience and has also acted as a traitor to the country. [Passage indistinct]

Dear sisters and brothers, we should not do anything to expand the war and at the same time we should not do anything to lessen the world hatred toward the regime. [Words indistinct] the national resistance movement will always live. It must follow a fixed aim which is the liberation of the nation and independence and social justice. We will continue on our path in the same way, and for victory in our aims we depend on you and your unity. [Passage indistinct]

You should cooperate with brothers and oppose [words indistinct]. This move should not be restricted to Tehran only but should be carried out in all the big cities, particularly in the provinces of Azarbayjan, Fars, Khorasan, Kermanshah, and Esfahan [words indistinct].

Professors at the universities, workers, farmers, office workers, tribesmen, merchants, and others should unite to overthrow the regime. The overthrow will take place at a predetermined time [words indistinct].

Even amidst misfortunes, slaughters and strangulations, the people have gained considerable political sense. These things are not understood by some foreign governments or they don't want to understand. They must know that the people of Iran do not want [words indistinct]. They want a free and a flourishing Iran.

Radio Iran on Tehran Demonstrations 17 May

*GF191806 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1830 GMT
18 May 85*

[Excerpts] The National Resistance Movement of Iran, as a result of the political and historical move of the Iranian people, issued two statements to the press in Paris and London yesterday. The first statement said: As a result of an invitation by Shahpur Bakhtiar, a large number of people in Iran came out into the streets on Friday, 17 May, to protest the continuation of the war between the Islamic Republic and Iraq. The leader of the National Resistance Movement of Iran, Shahpur Bakhtiar, in a message to the people of Iran issued on Wednesday, 15 May, asked them to come out of their homes at 1930 on Friday and march in the streets to protest against the regime and the bloody endless war between Iran and Iraq.

The first statement, which was issued in French and English, in both Paris and London, notes the initial reports on the presence of millions of Iranians in the streets for the information of world media and news agencies. It says that according to preliminary reports by eyewitnesses in various parts of the capital, Tehran witnessed a historical day today when over 1 million of its people came out into the streets. There were traffic jams several kilometers long in various directions on all major avenues. For

example, the traffic jam on Pahlavi Avenue was 7-km long. In southern Tehran districts, the large numbers of demonstrators caused severe traffic jams to the extent that cars could not move from Sepah Square toward south Tehran. Thus, the officials of the regime, in fear, ended the Friday prayers earlier than usual.

In the second statement by the movement which also was issued in French and English, again for the information of international media and news agencies, more details about the immense political move today and its locations have been published. The statement says: On Pahlavi Avenue, Old Shemiran Road, Jordan, Takht-e Tavus, Vanak Square and also on Shemiran, the number of demonstrators was very large. The traffic jams on most of the city streets were very large but in other streets where vehicles could move, drivers honked their horns and turned on their lights. Law enforcement agents moving around in their vehicles were unable to intervene. At the early stages of the demonstration, intervention by regime's agents was low but later in the day reactions by guards and Hezbollahis were observed. The Friday prayers ended earlier than the appointed time. We have a report from Tehran that in Zhaleh square, the scene of the famous black Friday incident, a large crowd overturned four vehicles belonging to the forces of the regime. In south Tehran, water cannons were used to disperse the crowd. In 9-Aban and Dolatabad districts, which were the scenes of popular demonstrations a month ago, some people were arrested.

The second statement goes on to say: According to our information there were large crowds in Shiraz, Mashhad, Shahi, Ahvaz, Kermanshah, Rasht, Neyshabur, Bojnurd, Shahsavari, Tabriz, Reza'iyeh, Shahrud, and Esfahan. In addition, a large crowd occupied Shahrokh Avenue in Mashhad, which is where the Hezbollahis reside, as well as Gaz Avenue of the same city. The statement concludes: With their response to the invitation of their national leader, people reaffirmed his role as the leader of the National Resistance Movement of Iran against Khomeyni and his regime.

Reports received from Tehran indicate that the noise of heavy traffic and sound of automobile horns was heard all along Old Shemiran Road up to Tajrish Square and on Pahlavi Avenue up to Amiriyeh well into the afternoon. One report indicates that the number of personnel guarding the radio-television center of the Islamic Republic on Pahlavi Avenue was increased and a chain barring the approach to the television center was stretched out further.

On Za'faraniyeh street, the revolution guards were taking the keys of private automobiles to prevent them from reaching Pahlavi Avenue. Youths aged 13 and less in Tehran jeered the regime's Hezbollahi elements. Near the junction of Pahlavi Avenue and Tavanir, the Hezbollahis became annoyed at the youths and got out of their automobiles and fired shots in the air. The same report says that girls in Tehran were not observing the Islamic veil and in many cases had put on makeup. The Hezbollahi elements used this as an excuse to begin persecuting the people. Young men rode motorcycles on Tehran streets in chain formations and encouraged people to honk their horns.

Another report indicates that Revolution Guards who usually patrol Tehran streets in groups of four were not very much in

evidence yesterday and few Revolution Guards could be seen in the city. Observers opined that the reason for this scarcity was that the regime was faced with a shortage of personnel for policing Tehran. One resident of Old Shemiran Road at the Soltanabad crossing told our correspondent that he and others crossed Mirdamat Street with much difficulty and delay. The south lane of Pahlavi Avenue was not useable due to a traffic jam. Traffic conditions were such that they could not move beyond Mahmudiyeh and because of this they returned to Old Shemiran Road through narrow lanes. This trip, that normally could be made in 15 minutes, took 2 hours.

In Tehran people moved toward the bombed areas, like 9-Aban Street, Maqsubbeyk, and Zafar. People walked around these spots and then continued on their way. War-stricken people in cars bearing license plates from Kermanshahan and Khorramabad were seen in great numbers. These people who have lost their homes and livelihood under the Islamic regime mostly live in Tehran streets and areas like Elizabeth Boulevard and Shahenshahi Park.

According to an eyewitness report, at 1130 a Revolution Guard riding a motorcycle assaulted a woman on Pahlavi Avenue opposite Razi high school. Someone in an automobile pushed the Revolution Guard into the gutter, breaking his leg. In order to hush up the matter, he was put into an automobile and removed from the area.

A Radio Iran correspondent reporting from Tehran stated that yesterday he left his house at 1000 and returned at 1830. The agitation had continued till late afternoon. A group of people had gone to the hilly areas around the telecabin. He added that the regime has gone lame. One of its legs went lame on 14th Mordad [5 August], and the other yesterday. In fact, most of the Hezbollahis in the streets were one with the people. Shahpur Bakhtiar was the spirit and focus of the demonstrations. The people were smiling meaningfully and were exchanging understanding looks. Yesterday, all hearts were united.

Another report from south Tehran says that heavy traffic flowed along the railroad bridge and railroad square in the direction of Shush, and many automobiles were flashing their headlights. A taxi driver told our correspondent that in the southern part of the city, so many people had gathered that the regime resorted to water cannons to disperse them. Another taxi driver said that it took him 1 and 1/2 hours to travel from Shahriyar Square to the approaches of Tehran University. The same reports indicated that crowds were surging from Railroad Square to Tajrish Square and also in Darband Square.

Another report from Tehran said the people did not want to disperse. The streets remained filled. The Hezbollahis finally spilled into the streets but failed to achieve their objective. The streets remained filled until late afternoon. People remained on the streets and in the parks shouting slogans favoring Bakhtiar and the constitutional monarchy, and antiwar and antiregime slogans.

The regime had lost control. The faces of laughing people in automobiles and pedestrians had very much unnerved the revolution guards and the Hezbollahis. The revolution guards fled

in the face of surging people. It was indeed a referendum in favor of Bakhtiar and was a show many times more grand than the happenings of 14th mordad of 1362 [5 August 1983].

At several points the Hezbollahis showed anger. But in face of the huge crowds, they began acting like traffic officials and directing traffic. In the face of people blowing their horns in Zafar crossing, the Revolution Guards carrying sidearms first intimidated the people, but after they saw the great number of people, they holstered their guns. At 1230, a group of Hezbollahis appeared shouting slogans like "War, war, till victory" on some streets and arrested people in certain quiet spots and put them on minibuses. This also took place in north Tehran. They forced a group of people into buses at Shahanshahi Park and took them to the committees. However, people maintained their composition and did not allow themselves to be provoked by the regime's thugs and continued their processions in the streets. Reports indicate that many of the arrested people were released an hour later by the committees.

Street vendors continued to operate and children carried little fans and rattles. Buses took on passengers outside the bus stops. One correspondent reported that the people attended speeches by two young men against the war. Police officials intervened and requested that they disperse. The policemen said that they were doing their duty and they were concerned. In north Vanak Square near Eksir store, a young man made a speech and pointing to a tree that had fallen to the ground during a storm the day before yesterday, said this will be the fate of the regime. You should keep your unity because the struggle is serious.

We also have reports from other Iranian cities which you will now hear: According to reports coming from Esfahan, people who were all smiling and riding in cars or walking were out in the city streets, especially in Mir, Nazar, Apadana, Mullah Sadra, Upper and Lower Chaharbagh Darvazeh Shiraz Avenues and Mojasameh Square.

A report from Shiraz indicates that even though before the start of the popular political move the regime had executed a number of people in order to scare the people of the city, the people gathered on Moshir Fatemi and Shahcheragh Avenues. Shah Avenue in Rasht was full of people and they were also moving around Pahlavi Avenue. According to another report, the political moves of the people of Shahrud on Friday were greater than their demonstrations on 5 August 1983.

A report by nationalist elements in Bojnurd indicates that people were going toward Bab-e Aban in trucks and small vans, passing sweets and confectionaries to each other along the way. A large number of youths also were moving on motorcycles and bicycles. A report from Sari notes that there was a clash between people and agents of the regime.

We also have the following reports from Khorasan Province: In Mashhad, a chain of cars moved from Taqiabad Square all the way to Ariamehr Square. On both sides of 'Adl-e Pahlavi Boulevard from 6-Bahman Square to airport square of the city, families shook hands and smiled. Masses of people could be seen on Darvazeh Tala'i, Naderi crossing, and Shahreza and Khaki Avenues. Children wore new clothes during yesterday's march

and women wore new veils. Railway, 24-Esfand, Ahmadabad, and Taqiabad Squares were covered with carpets and blankets. Some people sat on them and while others were walking about and a picnic-like atmosphere could be felt. On Khosravi Avenue, where Ayatollah Qomi's home is located, a number of people chanted "Enough of the war" and immediately dispersed. Another report from Mashhad states that large crowds gathered on Seemetri and Naderi Avenues and Shah and Pahlavi Squares.

Reports from Neyshabur state that Hakim Omar-e Khayyam and Railway Square and boulevard looked like picnic grounds.

Free Voice of Iran Reports on Demonstrations

GF171810 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian
1500 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Today crowds of people in Tehran and other provincial cities of Iran, as a sign of protest for violating the human rights and in opposition to the destructive war with Iraq, began to march in streets throughout the country.

Beginning with the first national referendum held on 5 August 1983 when they came out of their homes and demonstrated in streets, through today, Friday 17 May 1985, the people of Iran have continued their national demonstrations in protest against the usurper and the illegal regime.

Today's demonstrations in Tehran and provincial cities, reported to us via secret messages from our correspondents, were extremely peaceful. These demonstrations were a sign of political demonstrations. They were held in Tehran and provincial cities and demonstrated the will of the people against the war and against the attacks of the hezbollahis on the youth of our homeland.

These demonstrations have once again shown that they are against the mullah regime. The demonstrators held both walking and motorcade demonstrations. They gave the good news to their countrymen that they are about to be liberated [words indistinct] and they told their countrymen that these demonstrations should continue.

Today, from the north of Tehran up to Vanak Avenue, the crowds jammed the streets and roads were overflowing with people. Today's demonstrations in Tehran were in response to the message of the leader of the National Front.

The leader of the National Front, Shahpur Bakhtiar, sent a message to his countrymen in Iran through the Free Voice of Iran. Shahpur Bakhtiar said that the future government of Iran will be a constitutional monarchy. Today's demonstrations showed total support of the people to Shahpur Bakhtiar, the last prime minister of Iran.

[Words indistinct] Shahpur Bakhtiar's last message to the people of Iran had gained international support. A Human Rights Organization statement expressed its concern over violation of human rights in Iran. Similarly, world press and several human rights societies in the United States and the FRG issued statements against the human rights violations in that country.

Bakhtiar Thanks People for Demonstrations

GF200719 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1830 GMT
19 May 85

["Text" of message issued by former Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar in Paris — date not given, read by announcer]

[Text] Dear sisters and brothers, reports coming from Tehran and other Iranian cities show that you answered my call. These peaceful demonstrations were aimed at proving three points:

1. The Iranian nation strongly demands the end of the war in order to establish a nationalist, progressive government.
2. You came to the scene, disregarding all harshness and murders, to show all, and especially foreigners, that you will not surrender to a decadent anti-Iranian regime.
3. Your widespread move across the country makes me more adamant to stay in your service. With your actions you have allowed me to act in your name and for your freedom with complete honor throughout the world.

Do not listen to irresponsible or known elements. Throughout my life, I have not known anything higher than honor and freedom for Iran and know that you do not need any type of dictatorship. End the demonstrations for the time being so that disruptive elements do not infiltrate your ranks. Today, more than ever, I hear your cries of Iran will never die.

Nejat-e Iran: Khamene'i Empowers Hezbollah

GF181450 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian
1630 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] According to a report by our correspondent in Tehran, through an order issued by Mullah Khamene'i, the president of

the Islamic Republic, from now on the Hezbollah, which is made up of the most wicked knife wielders of the regime, will be working as a formal organization related to the government.

Hezbollah has been operating only from inside the Islamic Republican Party.

According to the same report, the regulations for the terrorist Hezbollah prepared on behalf of these knife wielders by Qazi Qaffari was approved last week by Khamene'i.

Mir Hoseyn Mosavi's office was informed to allocate the necessary credits and administrative power.

Our reporter said that in the first article of the Hezbollah's regulations the protection of the revolution within the country has been emphasized.

This so-called revolutionary organization of the mullahs is very similar to the Nazi attack guards of Adolf Hitler and the wicked activities of the Gestapo officials in Nazi Germany.

According to the same inhuman regulations any city operations such as terror, investigation, and attacks on buildings and people in the streets, alleys, and offices is within the power of the commander of the Hezbollah organization.

The location of the Hezbollah gathering, previously at Amirabad Street in Tehran, has been transferred to Gandhi Street, to one of the bombed buildings.

Meanwhile, the warehouses for arms and instruments for beating and torture will remain at Sepahbod Razmara Street on Ray Highway, which has been renamed Navvab-e Safavvi Street.